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THE MARYLAND FARMER:



DEVOTED TO
AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE,

LIVE STOCK
and RURAL ECONOMY.

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ENSILAGE.

At the late annual meeting of the Vermont Dairyman's Association the subject, of ensilage was discussed for an hour. Dr. Drew, of Danville, took the lead in a recital of his own experience:

"The doctor is improving a farm of a hundred acres, and has found the new system a great help to him. He alternates winter rye with corn, thus growing two full crops per year, in place of one as formerly. He buys guano and other fertilizers for producing the extra crops; does not have to fertilize very heavily for these crops, a barrel or two of guano per acre for each crop being ample for his land. The present season he had put two acres of field corn into his silo without cutting it, but laying the stalks all in one direction, and pressing solid. This had given him the best fodder he had ever fed. The ears of corn kept in perfect condition, and were eaten with the greatest relish by his cows, while he thus saved all the miller's toll, and the cost of carting to and from the mill. He is convinced that he can raise ensilage cheaper than he can roots on his land. He feeds ensilage twice a day, giving the cattle what they will eat up clean at the time, which is between thirty and forty pounds, or about seventy-five pounds per day: besides this they have what good hay they will eat, and a generous ration of mixed grain. Two tons of ensilage, and one ton of hay is in his judgment worth more for feeding than two tons of hay. Fifteen tons of corn ensilage is the highest yield per acre he has yet been able to produce.

Mr. Charles W. Wolcott, of Blue Hill Farm, Canton, Mass., being present, was called on for his experience in feeding ensilage for making milk and fancy butter.

Mr. Wolcott has fed ensilage four years, the first two years keeping his cattle upon it almost exclusively; that is to say, he fed liberally upon grain, but gave little or no dry food, nor grass. The past two years he has fed ensilage and hay in about equal quantities, but he has found no special harm from feeding the ensilage without hay, when the ensilage is of good quality. He had put one lot of corn and clover rowen in the silo, which spoiled, and also spoiled the milk and butter made from it. He is beginning to think that clover is not a suitable fodder to put into a silo. The air was so heavily charged with the foul odors that the milk which he bought from his neighbors became tainted and ruined from a very short period of exposure. A judicious use of ensilage had increased his milk product ten per cent. while the milk was so affected in richness, that the butter from a hundred pounds of it, increased five per cent. and with the single exception of the loss from feeding the clover rowen, no complaint had been heard, either from the milk or butter customers. He now feeds a mixture of swale, upland hay and ensilage, cutting and mixing enough at once to last five days. Grain is fed liberally. On his farm there are two distinct kinds of soil; one tract of reclaimed meadow is best adapted to the production of grass, and on this, grass is grown continuously, by heavy applications of stable manure.

Other portions of the farm are dry and sandy, and here corn is raised for the silo. The grass land is made to yield from four to five tons of cured hay per acre, annually, in two cuttings. This is more profitable than a corn crop, but if he could not raise more than two and a half tons of grass per acre, he would keep the land in silo crops every year. He applies five cords of very rich manure per acre to his grass land,

spreading it with a manure spreader. This manure is made from over one hundred head of cattle, twenty-five horses, and from 800 to 1,000 hogs and pigs. Eighteen tons of corn ensilage is a first-rate crop with him, and three tons is considered the equivalent of one ton of good upland hay. It costs about \$2.50 to grow a ton of ensilage, and put it in the silo, which makes the ton of hay worth about \$7.50 for feeding.

Many other speakers had something to say in favor of ensilage, while but few spoke against it. When the subject was being dismissed, a count was called for of those who had tried silos, and were satisfied with them. Thirty-three gentlemen rose in response, while only two took the opposite position, not being fully pleased with their experience."

For the Maryland Farmer.

Ensilage.

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 14, 1884.

MR. WHITMAN:—I read an article on Ensilage in your magazine in which I see the writer had seen a sample of clover ensilage and it was so offensive as to cause it to be put out of the room. Now, I am not seeking controversy or showing self-interest in my following statement, but I am very sorry to see that such an article should go into your paper when so many practical feeders have had such good results from giving dairy cows a portion of ensilage for daily feed. If it is not done well of course any sensible man would say, "let it alone, don't touch it," but when they who have been through the "mill of experience" as I have, and know of what I speak or write, I say it's a pity that the mistake or oversight of one or two parties should deter a great many stock breeders and dairymen from saving 30 to 50 per cent. of expenses in feeding and have the stock look much better in the bargain. A little common sense is worth a bushel of logic, and when I have tried the two ways, dry fodder and green ensilage cut and put down properly, I can say how much the cows eat of the latter without waste at a much less cost to store it, not moving to dry it, not a particle of mould damp, or waste stalk to discount on, the whole ground cleared off much earlier, in many cases it is succeeded by sowing rye, and the ensilage is so very much more con-

veniently handled in putting it out to the cows. There was one gentleman asserted that he had fed about 50 head of steers and cows on ten acres of green corn put into silo, and ten acres of timothy hay for the whole winter months and they came out fat. This was stated at the Ensilage Congress held at the N. Y. Plow Co., Beekman street, about three weeks ago. I had 3 acres to keep 32 head of Jerseys for about three months with a little hay twice a day, and four quarts wheat middlings, each animal per day. The cows in milk are 18 and we made from 70 to 80 pounds of butter per week, said by epicures to be equal to the best coming into New York city, and sold for fifty cents per pound.

I have written this information for yourself and your readers; any information wanted by interested parties I will be pleased to answer, such as what to grow, how to fill it or how to build one; what time and how much to give to each animal, &c. Wishing you very good success with your paper,

I remain, yours very truly,
JOSEPH COBB.

THE SILO.

Mr. L. B. Arnold in speaking of the value of silos, says:—"It seems to me that the *silo* is a sort of an insurance company, for the preservation of fodder. It saves all the wastes of our coarse fodder. Excessive rains always injure fodder when stored in the field. The silo saves from fall rains; if frosts come early, the silo enables us to cut and save this fodder at once, and not greatly injured. Clover should be put in the silo and save the vast outlay of labor, and often loss, that attends its cutting and curing. Clover offers, when alternated with maize ensilage, a perfect ration. Feed from one silo in the morning, and the other at night, giving a feed of well-cured hay at noon; and I do not see why the green grass ration of the summer is not restored. My advice would be to build a silo with many apartments, into which I put in turn rye, clover, corn and fodder, and mayhap part of the hay crop. By feeding them in rotation, I would have a complete food, and it would then be an experiment to what extent grain should be fed in the profitable production of milk."

Farm Work for March.

This first Spring month, is not always suitable for much out door work, for March is rather generally an unreliable and harsh one, hence the farmer should be prepared for its various moods of blandness and boisterousness, and take advantage of its sudden eccentricities. This however is the time to set the farm in order, and arrange for the coming season's work, unless it has been already done. By "setting in order," we mean that the fencing should be done completely the ditches thoroughly attended to, by cleaning out, removing all growth and extra dirt on the sides and leaving them free and clear of all working obstructions; the blind ditches looked after and seen to, that they run clear and have no obstructions. New ones made either open, or under drains, as may be required. White washing and repairing, and other small but essential matters attended to, such as the farm gates and roads put in order, &c.

It is a trying time on all kinds of stock calves and colts are coming; sows farrowing; horses and work-cattle shedding their coats, and the sudden changes of the weather are unfavorable to all, hence the great necessity to give them extra care and attention.—Keep them from storms and give plenty of water, light, and warm beds, and exercise in mild weather. Impose no unnecessary labor upon them and no inconvenience in getting water or food. Be gentle and kind to the young stock particularly.

PLOWING.

Let your plowing be pushed forward when the state of the land permits. Plow deep, on well drained soil if you desire fertility, amelioration of droughts, and correspondingly large yield of the various crops. Every thing depends on the proper manner in which the ground be first plowed. We like the method of deep plowing, then manuring, cross-plowing, harrowing, and before the crops are planted, use abundantly fertilizers, lightly harrowed in after the ground is fine tilth. Do not scratch the land and put in the crop, to be afterwards got in good order. If you pursue this course, it will never be got in proper order to bring a large crop. It can not be done, and is most likely not to be attempted, as other work will be pressing.

TOBACCO.

Finish sowing tobacco seed at the earliest moments. Be sure to keep the tobacco houses well secured against the damaging effects of the high March winds, on this crop. Judicious manage-

ment is well repaid in the added value of tobacco when it gets to market. Remember it is the prevailing opinion, for many sound reasons, that this great staple will sell high this year. Indeed the little that is now sold brings good prices. Nothing short of ten dollars per hundred average will pay the planter. Yet this can only be done by proper handling of the crop in all its stages of growth and curing, and preparation for market. Under a proper system, it pays better, in this region, than any other extensive product, unless it be peaches and small fruits, such as strawberries, &c.

PLASTER.

This is a cheap, reliable stimulant and aid to the growth of plants, especially on light, well drained lands, therefore use it liberally over the whole farm, manure heaps, and on newly spread manure.

SHEEP.

Wethers and other sheep intended for the market ought to be pushed on in fattening. Fat sheep at this season always are in great demand, as the butchers have the art to make one fat sheep sell four poor ones, at the same price.

If you have young lambs, protect them from stormy weather, and feed the ewes with bran and oats and a plenty of turnips, which you, as good farmers ought to have in abundance. Those ewes expected to yearn, separate from the flock, and at night put them under shelter, on ground well littered with leaves or short straw, to keep them dry and afford soft beds for the delicate young things when they come. Thousands are lost for the want of care. When the ewes are expected to yearn, they ought to be watched during the day, especially after such a severe winter as we have had, when buzzards and crows are starving, for we have seen in our day many ewes and lambs, when in a weak condition, or in the act of parturition, killed by buzzards, first by having their eyes picked out, and then rapidly torn to pieces. Again, those heavy in lamb often get on their backs in a small gully or rut and cannot get up, but struggle and die, or produce an abortion. Look out too for the vile dogs. Make war on them as they war upon the helpless sheep, and follow their example, by not stopping until you have killed every one found on your premises, showing signs of villianous intent.

OATS.

Sow oats as soon as possible, but it is labor lost unless your land is good, or highly fertilized, and well prepared. Oats respond to high

culture, perhaps better than any of the cereals, unless it be corn.

POTATOES.

Plant a few acres of Early Rose as early as possible. The early crops yield most money per acre. Manure heavily, plow deep, get in good tilth, and open furrows with a two-horse plow, 4 inches deep, and three or three and a half feet apart. Dress the bottom of the furrows with stable manure.—Then drop the half of a medium sized potato 10 ins apart, cover lightly with leaves or coarse manure. Sow a little plaster and ashes, or super-phosphate over the litter. Cover by a one-horse plow, lapping two furrows in ridge shape over the potato row. Nature will regulate their sprouting, and when they begin to appear, pass a drag harrow across the rows which levels and loosens the land. In a few days run a light harrow lengthwise the rows; one or two cultivatings and one plowing with some hoe work, they will be left to grow, and the weeds if any, will be pulled up by hand.

TREES AND ORCHARDS.

Fruit and ornamental trees, and forest trees, may be set out before the buds begin to expand. It is not too late to prune grape vines. Orchards may be trimmed. Peach trees shortened and branches thinned, and if required, dug out and manured, or limed, at same time the worms about the roots destroyed. But this should have been done last fall.

Garden Work for March.

In the South, garden work has been progressing rapidly for some weeks, but in this State, and in the Middle States, but little work can be done at this time before St. Patrick's day is over when the sun has crossed the line and the earth becomes warmer, and weather more settled. To begin garden work, the earth should be in good working order and the weather mild, except such attention as is necessary to be given to hot beds and plants in the cold frames, that the plants they contain be pushed forward, for immediate use, or setting out in open ground when the time and seasons are ready for such work.

A warm and protected border can be made very rich, spaded deep and reduced to the very finest tilth. Sow in drills 4 to 6 inches apart, lettuce, radish, early cabbage, cauliflower, tomato seeds, &c Rake lightly and dust the surface with plaster, soot and ashes, in equal parts, then pat the bed with the back of the spade and the work is done that will give strong, healthy

plants to set out in May. As they grow, thin them out and keep the bed clear of grass by hand picking. If a cold snap should come, throw over the bed some old mats or cloths, and if very severe put straw over this covering.

Weather permitting the following seeds and work may be performed.

Asparagus Beds, raked off, and some well rotted manure forked in, and a dressing of salt given. Set out new beds.

Cabbage and Lettuce, set out last fall, may be worked.

Spinach and Kale, may be treated in the same way, and sow more seeds of both for a succession of these nice vegetables.

Cabbage Plants, in the hot bed, if large enough transfer to cold frames, 3 inches apart, and harden them by judicious exposure, to prepare them for planting in open ground next month.

Beets, Carrots and Parsnips.—These ought to be sown as soon as possible for early use.

Salsify.—Sow this, as it grows slowly, and requires all the time you can give it.

Onions.—Sow onion seed, and plant out such as are intended for seed.

Cabbage Stalks, may now be cleaned, righted up, or set in rows, coarse manure or straw placed about them and corn fodder thrown over them, to keep them warm so as to induce the sprouts to shoot early and you will soon have them ready for garnishing jowls and midlings, or for Easter ham, that king of dishes, at that season of the year.

Peas.—Plant a few rows of these every ten days. Peas are generally planted too shallow.

Garlic and Shallots.—Make a small bed for each and set in the bulbs, or sow the seed.

Culinary Herbs, can now be planted around the garden beds, as a pretty edging, or the seeds may be sown thickly to be planted out in July. They will bloom in September or first of October, when they will be fit to cut and dry.

Horse-Radish.—Plant the slips of this useful root in beds. Set them 6 inches apart each way.

Grape Vine Cuttings.—Set out at once.

Raspberries.—Trim, tie up, cut the old wood, and set out such young shoots as may be wanted to increase the plantation. Two or three strong young shoots are enough to the hill. In planting out, only plant one in a hill, this will soon tiller to many.

Gooseberries and Currants.—Thin these, trim, work about them, mulch or manure if deemed to be necessary. Make new plantations from the cuttings.

Shrubbery of all kinds, should now be trimmed, tied up, and transplanted where required. Rose bushes, if not done before, may be cut close off or pruned severely. Old bushes will be much benefitted by being cut down to 6 inches above ground. They will renew themselves rapidly. Throw a fork full of coarse manure over the stupps.

For the Maryland Farmer.

An Acre of Cotton.

The popular cry in the South now is for less cotton and more provision crops. The last part of the cry is right; the first part is wrong. The South should raise more corn, wheat, grass, potatoes, clover and live stock. It must raise these to be prosperous; but it should raise these, and more, not less, cotton with them. The largest crop of cotton the South has ever produced was 7,000,000 bales. The crop of 1883 was 6,000,000 bales. There are over 500,000,000 acres of land in the South. Is there certainly not room for an annual production of 10,000,000 bales of cotton and more than enough of the provision crops to feed the entire population? Then why raise less cotton?

Cotton is a profitable crop. It may be, and has been, made unprofitable, but the same is true of corn, wheat grass or live stock. It is not the crop, but the manner of its production, that makes its production unprofitable. No other crop is so well suited to the latitude of the South; it is at home there. And in its latitude no other crop will do so well on so great a variety of soils. Cotton is rightly king of the agricultural productions of the South; it should remain so: but other monarchs may reign with it.

There is not any product which gives more labor to man than cotton. It employs his hands from the time the seed is put into the ground till the finished frocks and shirts are ready to be worn. It costs about ten dollars to pick a bale of cotton and put it at the ship's side. It therefore gives labor to this amount. And there is no safer principle of trade than the one which declares that the cost of *handling* a crop is always paid by the consumer and never by the producer. An acre of cotton which produces one bale, then, gives labor to the amount of ten dollars to the workers of the

South and not at the expense of the producer or proprietor of the land. A bale of cotton leaves about thirty bushels of seed which is worth to the farmer 28 cents per bushel. He may be persuaded to sell it to the oil mill for less, but it is nevertheless true that a bale of cotton leaves in the hands of the producer seed to the value of \$8.40. And this shows that of all crops cotton should the least impoverish the land. The staple only is taken; the root, stem, leaf, boll and seed may be returned. When rightly managed cotton takes from the soil only one-tenth as much as wheat, taking an average crop of each. Therefore if Southern planters wish to recuperate their worn-out land they can do no better than to raise cotton. It is urged that an increased production of cotton will lower the price. The past has demonstrated the contrary. In 1843, when the annual production was only 2,000,000 bales, the price per pound was only 7½ cents. During the last three years, when the average annual production has been over 6,000,000 bales, the average price has been 11½ cents. All history shows that as the production of a staple crop, like cotton, has increased it has found new markets and greater demand.

The truth of the matter is that the South needs, not less cotton, but less credit. The disasters of war made credit a sad necessity for a time; but the South is fast recovering.

JOHN M. STAHL.

THE products of agriculture constitute four-fifths of the entire exports of this country. Agriculture is the great and most important industry of this country, although cheap transportation will alone enable its products to command the markets of the world. No other industry has equal claims upon the fostering care of the National Government. Does it receive it?

AN acre of land contains 43,590 square feet. To cover this with manure two inches deep, as farmers sometimes tell of manuring their fields, would require a pile of manure more than than thirty feet square and eight feet deep, or nearly fifty-seven cords per acre; very few farmers ever put on that amount. The common ox cart or wagon, holding thirty bushels of potatoes, needs to be heaped pretty well to hold one third of a cord of manure.—*Mass. Ploughman.*

For the Maryland Farmer.

Keep up Fertility of Soil.

BY J. W. DARROW.

The success of one farmer over another lies in the surplus he is able to grow, over the necessary expenses of the farm and family. Two farmers living side by side, owning the same number of acres and having the same number in the family to support, may differ widely as to the net profits obtained as the result of a year's work. And if so, there is some good reason for it. One man returns to the soil only a part of what he takes from it; he sells his straw and his hay, save what little he needs to feed, and year after year draws upon the soil as if it were inexhaustible. What is more natural that it should deteriorate?

Another takes care to allow no waste of farm manures; gives his stock plenty of good straw bedding; does not throw the stable cleanings out into the yard to have its fertilizing properties washed out by the rains, or dried out by the sun. All refuse, carcasses of animals that may have died, leaves gathered from the woods, and muck from the swamps,—these and every other available fertilizer are composted and at the proper time hauled out upon the land.

And he does more than this. He buys manure by the wagon-load, if he can obtain it, and calculates his money well-invested. He experiments, if necessary, with commercial fertilizers, until he knows just what and how much his soil requires, or, indirectly, he converts a portion of the grain he grows into fertilizers by feeding it to stock, thereby benefitting them and his soil likewise. In short, he believes in feeding his soil as much as in feeding his cattle, knowing that neither can be expected to produce the best results without something to furnish material for production.

But in connection with proper fertilization of the soil, there must be proper cultivation. When the grain is put in, let the seed bed be mellow and well prepared. Seed frequently with clover and grass, and occasionally turn under some rampant growing crop, as clover or rye, for green manure. In this way fertility will be restored and retained, and farming will pay; otherwise land will deteriorate, and farming will *not* pay, and between the two, every farmer must make his choice.

What is made from paper.

One of the most remarkable uses to which paper has been put to of late years is the manufacture of zylonite, a substance which at the will of the manufacturer, may be made in imitation of horn, rubber, ivory, tortois shell, amber and even glass. The uses to which zylonite are adaptable are almost infinite, but perhaps the most extraordinary is the manufacture of cathedral windows. The discovery was made about fifteen years ago, but it is only within the last two years that a company has been formed for its manufacture. The basis of zylonite is a plain white tissue paper made from cotton or cotton and linen rags. The paper is treated first to a bath of sulphuric and other acids, undergoing a chemical change. The acid is then carefully washed out and the paper treated with another preparation of alcohol and camphor, assuming an appearance very much like parchment it is then capable of being worked up into plates of any thickness, rendered almost perfectly transparent, or given any of the brilliant colors that silk will take. It is much more flexible than either horn or ivory and less brittle. Combs or other articles made of it in imitation of tortois shell are said to be so perfect in appearance as to deceive the eye of the most practiced workman in that substance. The difference in the material can be detected only by tests.—*Industrial News.*

The National Farm and Fireside says: "Maryland Farmer" for february, is upon our table; as usual it is full of good things., Mr. Whitman, ably assisted by Col. Bowie, is making each number better than the last Terms, \$1.00 a year. Address Ezra Whitman, Baltimore, Md., or ita and NATIONAL FARM AND FIRESIDE, only \$1.50 a year.

A successful New Hampshire farmer ascribes his success to two simple things—observation and saving manure. He pays market price for muscle, land, works his brains. He keeps eleven cows and a horse, besides pigs and poultry, on nine acres of land, less what the buildings occupy. The "secrets" are rich food and economy of fertilizers, liquid as well as solid.

"BUCHU-PAIBA."

Quick, complete cure, all annoying Kidney, Bladder and urinary Diseases. \$1. Druggists.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Mules as a Farm Crop.

There are many farms where mules could be made a very profitable crop. The demand is constant, is steadily increasing, and the profits are much better than that made on ordinary horse stock. Considering the lower expense and the very slight risk from disease or sickness, as well as the comparative ease with which they can be raised, it is a wonder more do not give it a trial. Where land is very high, as it is near our large cities, or within a few miles of them, by rail road, it pays better to raise produce, &c., but on many of our Southern and Western farms, where land is cheap and where there is plenty of pasture land and exercise room, it will pay the farmers and planters to try mule breeding. If they have not had any previous experience, it is best to "go slow" at first, and afterwards to conduct the breeding on a large scale when increased knowledge enables them to do so with a positive assurance of eminent success. There are several quite large mule breeding establishments in different parts of the country, but there is room for many more small ones, the South, as well as our large cities in all sections, are at all times in want of mules large and small, tho' the former command much better prices and quicker sales.

The size and quality of the mules is controlled or governed in a great measure by the quality of the mares, and it is a great mistake to attempt to breed good mules from mares which are "good for nothing else," as is too often done, and which accounts for so many under-sized and almost worthless animals in the mule line. If good sized and salable mules are desired, they can only be gotten from good sized, able-bodied mares, young or comparatively so, and free from dangerous or undesirable traits, tricks or vices. The mares should be quite or nearly sixteen hands high, and roomy, while regular, quiet work on the farm makes them more docile, and the mule colts stronger and healthier.

In regard to the Jack, while some think it is necessary to use a very large one, we do not think it is always an advantage, for we have seen as fine mules raised from coupling a vigorous, young Jack, with a class of mares described above, the Jack frequently having to have a platform so ar-

anged as to permit him to serve the mares which he could not otherwise do, on account of the difference in size. Who have seen Jacks sixteen and even seventeen hands high, tho' such heights are unusual, the majority of them being fourteen to fourteen and one-half hands high. And we have seen as large, fine and salable mules produced from the small Jacks, as from the large ones, other things being equal.

E. JR.

Burning Rubbish.

The burning of stubble, corn stalks, and weeds is the greatest folly, and yet we see it recommended by some writers. To say that the ashes of vegetable growth are as valuable as the decayed remains is to ignore altogether vegetable mould, which is the most valuable of all manures from its quantity and quality combined; for by burning all but the mineral elements are lost, but by burning stubbles, etc., the whole vegetable mould is not only lost, but the fire drives out of the soil all rich elements as are already there, leaving the surface hard and useless as a brick kiln. For forty years I have never allowed anything to be burned on my lands. The bushes and briars are put thinly on the poor points, so as to stop the washes and to allow weeds and grass to grow through them and thus restore the soil. The stubble is turned under and corn stalks cut into with the hoe and ploughed in also, so that nothing is lost. Thus, while some of my neighbours' farms have gone to ruin, mine ever increased in fertility and value. While I recommend summer ploughing where wheat or other grain will hold the soil in winter, I would not have the soil ploughed in the fall without some cover on rolling lands to save them from winter washing. — *Correspondence Farmers Home Journal.*

THE spring meeting of the National Jockey Club, Washington, will be held at Ivy-City May 13, 14, 15, and 16. Eight stakes will be run, and will close March 1. There is every indication of a successful meeting. Many of the best horses of the country will be there, and the lovers of the turf anticipate a glorious time.

"Rough on Corns."

Ask for Well's "Rough on Corns." 15c. Quick, complete, permanent cure. Corns, warts, bunions.

The Maryland Improved Live Stock Breeders' Association held their annual meeting in February, at the Carrollton Hotel—John G. Clarke, president, in the chair; T. Alexander Seth, secretary. The report of the board of directors showed the work of the association to have been satisfactory last year. There are now 65 active members, including twenty-four new ones admitted during the year. The committee on Contagious and Infectious Diseases reported that they had prepared a law for the suppression of these diseases, which had been introduced into the House of Delegates, and was now before the committee on Hygiene, and it is thought that the report from the committee will be favorable. The fact that Congress has now before it a bill similar in tenor, which will require the enactment of laws by the State Legislatures to become operative, and that this act before Congress provides that if the States fail to make such provisions, cattle may be quarantined and not allowed to pass outside their bounds, has satisfied many members of the legislature, that the provisions of some such bill as that provided by the Breeders' Association, was necessary to protect the cattle trade, as it is thought that the feeling heretofore shown, in official quarters in the Western agricultural press, renders the quarantine of Maryland, should the Legislature fail to pass the proper law, a moral certainty. Hon. Robert M. McLane, Ezra Whitman and William B. Sands were elected honorary members of the association. The board of directors elected for the next year were; Alexander M. Fulford, Harford county; E. B. Emory, Queen Anne's; J. F. McMullen, Howard; Wm. H. Whitridge, John G. Clarke, John E. Phillips, Charles K. Harrison, E. G. Merryman and T. Alexander Seth, Baltimore county. The vice-presidents are from Baltimore county, John S. Gittings, Jr.; Harford, Colonel Edwin H. Webster; Cecil, Adam R. McGraw; Anne Arundel, F. B. Steiner; Carroll, Major Frank Brown; Frederick, Dr. J. W. Downey; Montgomery, Wm. T. Jones; Howard; E. R. Dennis; Queen Anne's, Dr. Wm. H. DeCourcey; Talbott, F. Carroll Goldsborough; Washington, John M. Ripple; Alleghany, Hon. Lloyd Lowndes; St. Mary's, J. T. Ballinger. The Association then adjourned. After the adjournment the board of directors met, and elected Mr. Fulford, presi-

dent; Mr. Whitridge, corresponding secretary, and Mr. T. Alexander Seth, secretary and treasurer.

Fencing.

Mr. J. W. Lang, in the *Maine Farmer*, says:—

"Barb wire is a good and durable material to use where fencing has to be purchased. Securely fastened to good well set posts, it is good for a generation. By a law of the State enacted last winter, there must be a wooden rail or board at the top to warn cattle that there is a fence there, and to guard against their injury. Posts set eleven feet apart, three panels to the two rods, a six inch board on top and two barb wires below, makes a good cattle fence at very moderate expense. Place the first wire 16 inches from the ground, the next 14 inches above the first, the six inch board a foot or twelve inches above the second wire, and it makes a four foot fence. If the nature of the ground admits, plow a furrow each side of the fence as close as a team will work, turning the furrow toward the fence each side. We will venture the assertion, that were our pastures fenced in this manner or with a fence as good, we should have no trouble from breachy cattle. The same fence can be made serviceable for sheep, by adding a third wire between the ground and the first wire, setting the first wire 20 inches from the ground and the added wire dividing the space. In using wire, strain up tight, thoroughly bracing the beginning and ending parts of the fence."

BARB WIRE.—Barbed wire can be used as a fence against hogs, by putting the lower wire four inches from the ground, and the next wire a foot or fourteen inches higher. This fence does not need to be high if hogs only are to be inclosed.

Southern farm laborers generally complain of barb-wire fences, as inconvenient and uncomfortable to sit on while they are quietly resting and waiting for the horn to call them to dinner. They much prefer the old-fashioned Virginia rail fence.

Mother Swan's Worm Syrup.

Infalible, tasteless, harmless, cathartic; for feverishness, restlessness, worms, constipation, 25 cents.

Hints about Water

No water that has stood in vessels during the night should be used for drinking or cooking. By exposure to the air it has lost its "aeration," and has absorbed much of the dust germs floating in the apartment. If convenience requires water to be kept in vessels several hours before use, it should be covered, unless the vessels are tight. Whenever it is practicable, all distributing reservoirs should be covered. Filtering adds to the purity of the water. Drinking water should never be taken from lakes or rivers on a low level. Surface water, or water in lakes, pools or rivers, which receive the surface wash should be avoided as much as possible. Do not drink much water at a time. More than two tumblers should not be taken at a meal. Do not drink between meals unless to quench the thirst, it weakens the gastric juice and over works the kidneys. Excessive potations, whether of water or other fluid, relax the stomach. impairs its secretions, and paralyze its movements. By drinking a little at a time all injury is avoided.

ROAD MACHINES :—We refer our readers who are in anyway interested in roads or road-making, to the advertisement of Pen-nock & Sons in our Ad.' Columns. Often have we urged the trial of these labor-saving road machines to our road supervisors and others, because we feel sure that they are the best practical implements in use, for saving labor and effectually doing good work in road-mending, or making. We are sure wherever they have been tried properly, they have given satisfaction. On alluvial soils, like those of Southern Maryland, we should think they would become indispensable after a single trial. Caroline co. Md. it would seem has been fascinated with them, and will have nothing else on her roads, except to polish off and drain properly. Our advice has been always that those who have in charge the roads of our counties, should avail themselves of the advantages offered by Pen-nock's Road Machine.

THE DAIRY.**Powell's Process of Manufacturing Butter, Cheese and Sugar from the same Milk.**

In explanation of this new, economical and wonderful discovery of these processes, Mr. E. R. Powell, the inventor of the "Vacuum" process of handling milk was given a hearing at the last Vermont Dairy-men's Association's meeting, and we give the following interesting report of his remarks as we find it in the *New England Farmer* :

"The speaker claimed that while inventors had been busy inventing machines for cheapening the cost of harvesting our crops, they had rather overlooked the methods for increasing the amount of crops to be harvested. In our eagerness to obtain the one spear of grass grown, we forget the more important matter of trying to make the two spears grow where but the one grew before. Americans are far too wasteful in their habits and customs. We annually waste many millions of dollars' worth of material that should go to increase our food product, and then we waste many millions more that is already good food. More than half the solids in milk are annually wasted, involving a loss of \$2,000,000 in the United States every day, or enough in a year to pay the entire national debt. When a young man, it was a part of his daily duty to feed and milk twenty cows, and in warm weather, when the milk soured and spoiled before the cream had time to rise he noticed that the profits from the dairy paid him very poorly for his hard work, and he had been studying ever since, endeavoring to discover some way to save the waste and thus make the profits larger. The greatest waste is the loss of the caseine and the sugar in milk, the fat being less generally saved and is easily destroyed. Skimmed milk that is blue is poor, but milk that is properly cared for while the cream is rising will not be blue but white like new milk.

Cheese made from blue milk is always poor, but if the oxygen of the air is kept from working upon it while the cream is rising, the caseine will be preserved in perfection and will then make a good quality

of cheese, as has been proved, by the working experiments carried on during the past summer at the factory. But having secured all the butter from milk, and afterwards the cheese, there still remains the milk sugar which is often the largest in amount of the three. The speaker showed samples of the sugar of milk as obtained at the factory, both in the crude form and refined for the trade. In the crude form it is dry enough to ship in ordinary cheap barrels or boxes and can be refined as cheaply as ordinary cane sugar. Refined milk sugar is a costly article of commerce, retailing at the present time, in this country, at fifty cents and upwards per pound; while by the new process it can be obtained at very small cost. The heating of the milk and the subsequent exhaustion of the air is found to purify the milk of all animal and stable odors, leaving it perfectly pure and sweet, though the speaker did not offer to pay any premium on carelessly handled milk.

The butter and cheese made the past summer, have both sold at good prices, and the farmers that have furnished the milk have received an extra price above the usual rates in the vicinity, which is a point of much interest to them."

[As remarkable as are the statements made above, we heard the same speaker before the "A. A. A", at its recent annual meeting in New York, add to the above processes, *vinegar* made from the whey. The exhibits there made, we severally tested and found each one most excellent, i. e. from the same milk there was the usual amount of nice butter, an excellent cheese, sugar, and a fine colored, sharp vinegar. The speaker, Mr. Powell, promised us to let us hear from him soon, more in detail. It is a matter which deeply concerns our farmers who are interested in selling milk and butter &c. and who own over twenty cows, from whose products quite an annual income may result, although he may reside some miles from a town or rail road or other public conveyance leading to the nearest large mart.—EDS. MD. FAR.]

Decline of Man.

Nervous Weakness, Dyspepsia, Impotence, Sexual Debility, cured by "Well's" Health Regener. \$1

The Value of the Guenon System.

Mr. George Blight, a member of the Guenon Commission of the State of Pennsylvania, has the following article in the February number of the *Agricultural Review*:

"How important is the proper selection of the cow. My attention has been directed for more than twenty years, to the dairy interests of our country. During this period many hundred animals have been carefully examined, all their good and bad points noted, and deductions drawn, which time and experience have taught me to consider as correct, furnishing most valuable knowledge for those engaged in the dairy, or in breeding cattle for beef.

Guenon's work has formed the basis of my investigations. By constant study and application of his system, a perfect knowledge of the cow can be acquired—the yield of her milk ascertained. Seldom have I failed to portray her true character, whether she be a milker or not. In my mind there can be no doubt, that these external marks do indicate the value of the animal, and by them her power to yield 12 lbs., 8 lbs., or 4 lbs. of butter per week can be discovered. Is not this of great value to the farmer? One charm this system of judging dairy cows possesses is, that it militates against no preconceived views; it only adds to the powers of selection. In fact, the cow with the fine escutcheon, possesses all the old-fashioned qualifications. She will be found to have the long neck, free from coarse hair, small hind legs, horns turned in or downwards, not up.

BULLS.

The bull should possess all points required for perfection. These are seldom found in one animal; but my advice to the breeder, is not to stop until he gets the right animal, for every thing depends upon the excellency of the bull. I have known the whole progeny of a herd, rendered of little value, by the use of bulls not properly marked, according to the Guenon system; and where a change has been made, the heifers from the same cows have improved in productiveness. Is not this of great value to the dairyman, and enough to induce him to study closely the Guenon system, until he has thoroughly conquered it?

STEERS, OR FATTENING CATTLE.

The common, received opinion is that all castrated animals make good beef. They will make beef; but those selected by the Guenon marks will fatten more easily on the same amount of food, will put the fat on those parts of the body most valuable, whereas those badly marked will become large and heavy in the horns and shoulders, parts, which command the lowest price in the market. Is not this of great value to the farmer, before he purchases, or stables his ox?

In the bovine race, there are other marks which experience has taught me to be of great value, such as the "quirl" on the back. To many this may seem strange and ridiculous; to me it indicates the centre of the veins in the animal. In the cow, when found in the middle of the back, it indicates that the nourishment the animal receives, goes toward the udder; when in the shoulder, that it goes toward the head, horns and shoulders—parts unproductive.

In the steer, when the quirl is in the middle of the back, the food the animal receives goes to the ribs and hind quarters,—the valuable parts; but when on the shoulder, the fore quarters and horns receive the benefit of the corn fed to him. Let me assure you, there is much advantage in knowing how to apply this knowledge."

THE *American Dairyman* says there is one point that should be deeply impressed upon the dairyman's mind, and that is, if he wants to make a first-class article of butter, he must *churn* often. Never let the cream get over three days old, no matter how cold it may be kept. If cold, it will get old, flat and frinky. If sour, the whey will eat up the best butter globules. Churn as often as you can.

Professor Roberts, of Cornell, thinks that the silo will prove a valuable aid in winter dairying.

THE products of agriculture constitute four-fifths of the entire exports of this country. Agriculture is the great and most important industry of this country, although cheap transportation will alone enable its products to command the markets of the world. No other industry has equal claims upon the fostering care of the National Government.

HORTICULTURAL.

The Tree Bean.



We are indebted to the "Farm, Field and Fireside," for the above cut and most of the description of the characteristics of this remarkable bean.

"It should be known that the name and reputation of this bean, like many other good things, has been used to impose upon the public by unscrupulous parties sending out the ordinary "White Navy" for this. "Tree Bean" is the best name for the variety, although it has been called the "Mexican Prolific Tree Bean," "California Prolific Tree Bean," "Devonshire Tree Bean," "Imperial Tree Bean," etc., but all are one and the same thing. The variety originated by selection of much branching, and very prolific plants from the "White Navy" which it closely resembles in every particular, except the branching habit, great prolificacy, and much larger growth. It is a little later than the "Navy," maturing about the same time as the "Medium." For cooking, it is fully equal to the "Navy," and by some, thought superior, requiring less time to bake."

It is said that 184 pods have been counted on one bush. Plant only one seed in a hill, because it branches so much. The hills to be eighteen inches apart. The bean itself is small.

THE POOR MAN'S FRIEND.—It cures him of his pains and aches and enables him to sleep soundly. Such a friend will be found in Stonebraker's Liniment. 25 cents.

For the Maryland Farmer.

The Cultivation of Fruit Trees.

Formerly it was believed that a fruit orchard only required the setting in some rough and unproductive portion of the farm, and then left to develop in due course of nature; or perhaps what was frequently the case, as young trees come up in the pastures they were allowed to grow in the scattered condition in which they were found. Such a course might answer where no regard was had to the fruit production or where fruit was required only for making cider, because it is a noticeable fact, that trees of natural fruit are usually much more prolific than some of the more popular cultivated varieties.

In order to secure the best specimens of fruit, some attention must be paid to the setting and after attention.

Trees should be set in a soil of a good degree of fertility and with sufficient care to insure their immediate growth. When they are young they should be kept in a good, healthy growing condition, which cannot be attained if they are left where a sod is maintained. The growth of the trees will be very much retarded, and their period of maturity delayed. A forest growth in a loose porous soil, affords evidence of an element of success in the growth of trees, and so when a young orchard is set. The soil should be kept pulverized by cultivation of some crop that will not intrude upon or shade the young trees; and if they can be mulched by some substance, like old hay or sawdust, all the better. But in the growth of crops, which should be continued for a few years, no high manuring should be indulged in, lest the growth of the trees be too rapid, and consequently unnatural as well as unhealthy. This condition we have tested, and the result was a premature growth, diseased trees that finally yielded to the disease and died. While fruit trees must be kept in a good, thrifty condition, they should not be over stimulated. We have in mind a pear orchard, that was under cultivation and highly manured. On coming to bearing the soil was seeded down, and the result was, that the trees rapidly yielded to decay.

In orchards where the trees are so large, as to be beyond injury, we like the plan pursued by fruit growers in western New York. There, the practice with many far-

mers is to pasture their orchards with swine or sheep, the former being preferred. By pursuing this course, a tripple advantage is gained; the hogs are allowed to root over the turf, and so keep the soil loose, and at the same time destroy the vermin in the soil. They also fertilize the soil all that is necessary for the healthy growth of the trees; and finally, as the young fruit begins to develop and drop to the ground, because if any ravages of insects, it is destroyed with the insects, so that their ravages are very greatly diminished, if not wholly prevented. It is surprising what a wonderful influence this mode has upon the fruit, as we can attest from personal observation; having seen orchards in which hogs have been pastured, laden with perfectly smooth and nice trucking fruit, while others on which no hogs had been pastured, had but a scanty burden of insect mutilated fruit. In fruit growing it is safe to say, that what is worth doing at all, is worth doing well.

WILLIAM H. YEOMANS,
Columbia, Conn.

The "Pitman Pippin."

The Pitman or "Pickman," although not so well known as the Baldwin, but is acknowledged by all who are acquainted with the apple, to be the very best for cooking purposes. This apple originated on the "Pickman" farm in Salem, now owned by Geo. B. Loring. The original tree stood in what was called the garden, and for many years went by the name of the garden apple, but as its superior quality became appreciated, it was propagated on that farm to a large extent, and took the present name of "Pickman" Pippin—*Mass. Ploughman.*

THERE are many trees which when in a young state, are more or less winter-killed at top, and at the points of the shoots, but become perfectly hardy as they advance in years. Nurserymen find that such plants, as the English walnut, Spanish chesnut, and many evergreens require protection when young. The leading shoot is generally first to be injured in evergreen trees. A good remedy is to encase the terminal point in a corn husk. This we have seen to answer the purpose.

ONIONS.

In one of his late bulletins, Dr. Sturtevant gives the following experiment. "The soil was thoroughly pulverized over a small plat of ground, and on an adjoining plat of equal size, the ground was packed as hard as possible, by repeatedly pounding it with a heavy maul. The surface of both plats was then covered with finely pulverized soil to the depth of half an inch, and, on June 3, three rows on each plat were planted with seed of the Large Red Wethersfield onion. Late planting was disadvantageous to the yield, but the three rows on the compacted soil yielded nine pounds, seven ounces of merchantable bulbs, while the three rows on the pulverized soil yielded but three pounds, three ounces. The percentage of vegetation in the two plats was not noticeably different, although the vegetation was prompter on the compacted soil.

POTATOES.—A farmer says that the leaves from the woods, are a great assistance in growing Irish potatoes. These, when put in the furrow with the potatoes, not only furnish the nutriment for their sustenance, but retain the water from rains, and counteract the injury from dry weather. If leaves cannot be had, straw is the next best thing for this purpose.

FROM four acres of ground a market gardener at Morris, Ill., during the past season, made a net profit of \$1,300, not including the vegetables for his own family.

AN experienced fruit grower claims that pears grafted upon the stalk of wild red haw, have a fine flavor, will bear more certainly, and will be forever free from blight; and that the peach grafted upon an apricot stalk bears well, and is free from grubs and the yellows.

THE scarcity and high price of black walnut timber, should induce farmers to cultivate this valuable tree. Young men especially should pay attention to the culture of black walnut. There are always places on the farm where they can be grown, which are not occupied by other products.

The Red Astrachan Apple.

Although this is a popular variety of the apple, and of rather large size, with the color a brilliant deep crimson, with a thick bloom, and is to be found in places nearly all over the Republic, yet it is strange that there are so many orchards in which it is not to be found. It is not, it is true, a first class eating apple, and is perhaps rather acid, but there is scarcely another equal to it for culinary purposes; and no matter what the supply may be in the market, it is quickly bought up. It is as soft and entirely free from pulp, when cooked as frozen cream. It is also an early bearer, coming next after the Early Harvest, and tho' it is not an abundant bearer, it has a yearly crop and thus retains its productive capacity, year after year, and is naturally long lived. We do not hesitate to say that no orchard should be without it, and so far as we know, we believe it is to be obtained at almost every respectable nursery.—*G. Telegraph.*

Fruit Nomenclature.

Col. Wilder, addressing the American Pomological Society, denounced in terms with which all can sympathize the confusing and often nonsensical nomenclatures of varieties of fruit. He said: "In former addresses, I have spoken to you of the importance of the establishment of short, plain, and proper rules to govern the nomenclature and description of our fruits, and our duty in regard to it, and I desire once more to enforce these opinions on a subject which I deem of imperative importance. Our society has been foremost in the field of reform in this work, but there is much yet to be done. We should have a system of rules consistent with our science, regulated by common sense, and which shall avoid ostentations, indecorous, inappropriate, and superfluous names. Such a code your committee have in hand, and I commend its adoption. Let us have no more Generals, Colonels, or Captains attached to the names of the fruits; no more Presidents, Governors, or titled dignitaries; no more Monarchs, Kings, or Princes; no more Mammoths, Giants, or Tom Thumbs; no more None-suches, Seek-no-furtherers, Ne Plus Ultras, Hog-pens, Sheep-noses, Big Bobs, Iron Clads, Legal Tenders, Sucker States, or Stump-the-worlds. Let

us have no more long, unpronounceable, irrelevant, high-flown, bombastic names to our fruits, and, if possible, let us dispense with the now confused terms of Belle, Beur-re, Calebasse, Doyenne, Pearmain, Pippin, Seedling, Beauty, Favourite, and other like useless, and improper titles to our fruits. The cases are very few, where a single word will not form a better name for a fruit than two or more. Thus we shall establish a standard worthy of imitation by other nations, and I suggest that we ask the co-operation of all pomological and horticultural societies in this and foreign countries, in carrying out this important reform.

Cucumber and Melons.

It is not generally known that squashes, melons and cucumbers will mix and hybridize if planted near to each other, and may, although planted at a distance, by the bees bringing pollen from one plant to another. Not only is the seed made worthless, but the fruit is spoiled for use, as the flavor is mixed. This has been doubted, but two years ago, I grew melons and cucumbers together in adjoining beds, to test the question. Some of the melons were all right, and some of the cucumbers, but there were a great many melons that were too much like cucumbers, and too many cucumbers like melons. One cucumber was distinctly half and half, being partly netted and divided into sections. Most of the melons were uneatable. Since then, I have chosen to grow melons in the garden and cucumbers at the further end of the farm. Watermelons do not seem to mix; they bloom much later than muskmelons, and I have them growing side by side all right.—*Colman's Rural World*.

Consumption Cured.

An old physician retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, a W. A. NOYES, 149 Power's Block, Rochester, Y.

Market Gardening.

At the Farmer's Convention, held in Baltimore, on the 22d of February, the following remarks were made by Peter Henderson, Esq.,—the distinguished horticulturist and florist of New York city, and whose name as an author is well known to our readers. His theme was "Market Gardening."

For the past ten years market gardening has been less remunerative than it probably has ever been in this country, particularly to the growers in the vicinity of our large cities, where transportation takes no longer than from three to six days from points South. In fact it is exceedingly doubtful if the crops of cabbage, beets, lettuce, onions, radishes, and other early crops in the hands of the different growers have one with another, paid more than the actual cost of culture, and the wonder is how year after year, the business of growing early stuff is continued. But every year it is expected to pay better, and thus they hold on, supported mainly by their late or second crops, with which the Southern-grown products do not interfere. The most important among the late crops of the market gardener in the Northern States is celery, which, to compensate for the loss in profit of the early crops, has for the past ten years probably paid a clear profit over all expenses of \$300 per acre. Late cabbage probably pays half that, while late cauliflower may average as great a profit as celery, but the crop is confined to special localities, while celery can be grown almost anywhere north of Washington, where the soil is ten inches deep, and thoroughly pulverized and manured. Other late crops, such as beets, turnips, parsnips, tomatoes, carrots, horse-radish, etc. are grown at profits varying from \$50 to \$300 per acre, but all early crops, either of vegetables or of fruits, have been less profitable in the vicinity of New York, in the past ten years, than at any time probably in the last half century, and I see no outlook for the better: both land and labor are cheaper in the Southern States, crops, in most sections, can be cultivated with less labor, and the rapid increasing facilities for quick transportation, all tell against the Northern grower who relies on early crops. This however refers

to large cities. In inland towns, particularly where vegetables or fruits are grown for use in the localities in which they are produced, the Southern crops do not much interfere, as they are usually received in such condition as would not bear re-shipment. So it is safe to say that the growing of either vegetables or fruits locally, for towns of from 5,000 to 50,000 inhabitants, is still and will likely continue to be a profitable business. Another branch of market gardening is often very profitable—that of growing fruits and vegetables for summer boarding-houses or hotels. Many farmers are enterprising and energetic enough to go into this, and they usually make as much from every acre so devoted as from 25 or even 50 acres in ordinary farming, for from such customers they get retail prices, and often high prices at that. The great difficulty in growing fruits or vegetables away from towns is manure, for it is indispensable to the best results. No matter how good the normal condition of the soil may be, it will not long produce fine crops of vegetables, or even fruits without manure. Stable manure when it can be obtained is best, and it should be put on the land annually, at the rate of not less than 50 loads or tons per acre. Stable manure is as cheap in my opinion, laid on the land at \$3 per ton, as bone-dust or guano at \$40 or \$50 per ton. Our market gardeners in Hudson county, N. J. use at least 50 tons per acre annually, and often harrow in, in addition half a ton of guano or bone-dust; and when it is known that most of them yet pay \$50 per acre rent, annually, without a lease, thus costing for each acre \$200 each year for manure and rent alone, and probably an equal amount for labor, it can be easily seen that unless every foot of land is made to tell, the balance would soon be on the wrong side of the ledger. Yet in the face of this, there is hardly a market gardener who has been in the business for twenty years, but has made money, showing that the high manuring has paid in the past whatever it will do now in competition with the South. Certain it is that if it will not pay with this manuring it will not pay without it. Market gardening is largely carried on at Charleston, Savannah, Jacksonville, and other points in Florida, in Norfolk, Va., and many other places South, where there is quick transportation, and though much depends on

soil and location and convenience in shipping it is certain that at the present time the returns are greater for the capital and energy invested South than North.

In a visit to Charleston, S. C., last February, I called on a firm of Market Gardeners, the Messrs. Noisette, who had long been customers of ours for seeds and plants, never dreaming for a moment from their intelligent manner of doing business but what they were white men. I was surprised to find on asking for them that the firm was represented by two modest looking colored men of middle age, who from a beginning with 11 acres in 1864, had in 1883 got to be owners of 75 acres of valuable land, right in the suburbs of Charleston, every acre of which was worked in vegetable and fruit crops in the most thorough manner. Hardly a weed was to be seen, and nearly every crop showed the greatest possible fertility, and no wonder for they use 60 tons of stable manure, and $\frac{1}{2}$ ton of guano per acre. They had the biggest and best manure heap I ever saw in any market garden, having early learned the importance of that factor to success. They employ an average of 75 hands, or about one to each acre, which is about the same as is required at the North, though the wages paid—50 cents per day for women and \$1.00 per day for men—is little more than half that paid North; and when it is known that their early products now sell for three times as much in New York, or Philadelphia, as the home-grown vegetables and fruits it can well be understood how profitable the business must be. I did not ask Messrs. Noisette what their profits on their 75 acres were, but I have little doubt it would not be less than \$20,000 per year, and may be \$30,000. For when cabbage sells for 25 cents, and cauliflower 75 cents per head, and when we know that 10,000 plants are planted on an acre, it is easily seen what market gardening must pay in that part of the South. Of course every acre would not be so profitable, and occasionally a crop, from insects or other causes, may be entirely lost, but over all there is no question that the business conducted in the masterly manner in which it was done by these two colored men, must be immensely profitable. Everything indicated that they were up with the times. They had the best ploughs, harrows, and rollers that money could buy, and it was

here, for the first time, I must acknowledge, that I ever saw that valuable machine, the manure spreader in use. We have probably two hundred market gardeners in Hudson county, N. J., many of whom have been in the business for a quarter of a century, and I doubt if there is one of these implements in use among the market gardeners in the whole county. To be sure few of them have over 10 acres, and its value is less on small areas, though on grounds, such as cultivated by the Messrs. Noisette where 4,000 tons of manure is annually used on their 75 acres, the manure spreader will pay for itself many times in one season, not only from the rapidity with which it does the work, but also from the evenness in spreading and disintegrating the manure. The crops that Messrs. Noisette have found to be most profitable in Charleston, are strawberries, lettuce, cauliflower and cabbage, though they grow largely of potatoes, tomatoes, cucumbers and melons.

In an article, short as this must be, no detail of the operations in market gardening can be given, nor indeed is there much to tell that has not already been given in the books on the subject.

There are, however, a few valuable implements of recent introduction that I might mention, such as the Acme harrow, the Disc smoothing harrow, improved wheel-hoes and cultivators, and the manure spreader. (before alluded to,) the use of which may be made very profitable to the market gardener, and is perfectly indispensable on any well cultivated farm of over 100 acres. In new vegetables the American wonder pea, early summer cabbage, and golden Savoy cabbage, snow ball cauliflower, dark round radish, and white plume celery, are all now standard vegetables of great merit. The last named,—“White Plume”—celery, will open up an entirely new field in the culture of this vegetable, as it possesses the wonderful property of self blanching, and can be grown just as easily as cabbage, lettuce or beet crops. No earthing or banking up is required. It is planted like any other celery in June or July, 3 feet between the rows, and 6 inches between the plants, and all the work required is simply to plow or hoe enough soil to each side of the row to straighten it up, and the work is done, as the centre stalks and leaves then grow up as white as

snow, blanched, crisp and tender, as the ordinary celeries are by the slow and troublesome process of banking. Another valuable feature of this variety is that the leaves as well as the stems being white, it will thus form one of the most ornamental of all vegetables for the table, and there is but little doubt that it will be grown for early use, say from October to January, to the exclusion of all other kinds. Not only because it can be grown by the most inexperienced amateur, but the professional market gardener will save two thirds in labor and produce a more salable crop. For the past two seasons it has sold from its fine appearance at double the price of the ordinary kinds, but of course when it comes into general cultivation, that is not to be expected.

Publications Received.

LIVING IN FLORIDA:—We have received from “Home and Farm,” a neat pamphlet containing the letters of its Florida correspondent, Mrs. L. B. Robinson. These letters are valuable because they truthfully describe all the difficulties new settlers in that State must expect to encounter, and they give just the information about every day life, which can not be obtained from official reports or pamphlets published by land agents. Everyone interested in Florida ought to have this pamphlet. Price 25 cents. Address “Home and Farm,” Louisville, Ky.

FLORIDA and the Game Water-Birds of the Atlantic Coast and the Lakes of the United States.—by R. Barnwell Roosevelt published by “Orange Judd Co.” 751 Broadway, New York, price, postpaid, \$2.00. This volume is well illustrated, well written and neatly printed. Like all the writings of this popular author, it abounds in information and interest to all who take pleasure in sports of the land of Florida and its inducements to settlers, or visitors. An hour of leisure cannot be better spent than by a careful reading of this book.

THE Fifth Bi-ennial Report of the State Board of Health of Maryland, is a book of near 300 pages of valuable and interesting information to all who are interested in the hygiene of the State, and sewerage and other fruitful causes of diseases. It is well worth perusal and its advice and warnings should be embraced by all the property holders in the State.

PLAIN Facts about Arkansas and Texas, Illus. trated with Diagrams.—It is a plain illustration

of the growing power of those States, and of the utmost utility to all who expect to emigrate to either State. It is also valuable to the general reader and to the collector of statistics. Somewhat alter the order of the inimitable Red Book of the B. & O. R. R. To be had free of D. W. Janowitz, 153 Baltimore Street, Baltimore, Md.

VOL. II of the Ayrshire Breeders Association, from C. M. Widslow, Editor, with Essays on the "Ayrshire Breed" and the "Mileh C w" in general, and is altogether a valuable pamphlet.

NEW AMERICAN POULTRY BOOK. Crawford & Co., Publishers, Philadelphia, price 25 cents, is a neat compendium of matters and facts concerning the different breeds of poultry, and hints as to their breeding and raising profitably.

TRANSACTIONS of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for 1883.—Part 1.

HANDY ATLAS OF THE WORLD. Ivison, Blakeman, Taylor & Co. New York and Chicago, price 50 cents. This is without question the most excellent Atlas, yet before the public. It has good maps accompanied with a mass of valuable statistics. We commend it to all students of geography, and such as take an interest in the length of rivers, height of mountains, &c. It is really worth to students of geography three or more times its cost.

"ILLUSTRATED ALMANAC" of the Havre De Grace Republican, is without question a pretty piece of typography and reflects credit on its authors and all connected with its issue. We hail it with welcome as an evidence of the pluck and energy that our rural publishers are capable. It is not only a credit to the authors but to the State at large. Fewer more complete, instructive and elegant in style, and embellishment, almanacs have ever issued from any publishing concern in this or our mother countries of Europe.

"FOREST LEAVES," by W. W. Johnson. Snowflake, Antrim Co Mich, price 50 cents. This is the title of a well written and practical treatise on the propagation and management of forest and ornamental trees, with a descriptive list of varieties. It is superbly and profusely illustrated with colored specimens of autumn leaves of trees, true to nature in shape and color. It is the best printed and elegantly gotten up book of the present day, and will set our young people wild this autumn in gathering the beautiful leaves of the forest as nature paints them during our Indian summer. For this, if not for its intrinsic value, it should be found in every

house-hold. The gathering of bright colored leaves will naturally lead to the study of botany, and the history and importance of forestry, tree planting, and peculiarity &c. of various trees.

Journalistic.

THE "American Merino and Sheep Farmer," Chicago, Ill., price \$1 50 per year. This is a quarto, monthly magazine, well printed and full of information in regard to all matters connected with sheep and wool interests.

THE MONTICELLO FARMER AND GRAPE GROWER, published by Peck & Allan, monthly, at Charlottesville, Va. Devoted to the farming interests of the Piedmont district of that portion of the old dominion. Neatly printed and very instructive. \$1 00 per year.

THE FARMER'S GAZETTE, just started as a monthly, by C. John, manager for the Sterling Gazette Co., Sterling, Ill. Price 75 cents per year, is a good compendium of all that is transpiring in these progressive days for the benefit of the farmers of the North-West.

THE ART UNION, Illustrated, 44 Union Square, New York. Price 25 cents per copy, or \$3-00 per year. Encouraged by the success of Cassell, Petter & Galpin's Art Magazine, and the growing taste of our people for high Art, is no doubt the cause of this new enterprize started January 1884. Its leading features each month will be contributions from artists members of the "Art Union," both in the form of papers and illustrations. It will, no doubt, be a well received book by the public, and grow into popular favor.

THE SUN ALMANAC.—We have received a copy of this annual condensation of useful and important information. It is a comprehensive compendium of facts that can be daily resorted to by faulty memories for figures and exact facts. In this respect it has no superior, if an equal. It has already become a yearly visitor, that the people of Maryland in particular cannot well do without.

MORE FINE STOCK FOR MARYLAND.—Ex-Governor Bowie has purchased the high-bred imported stallion Blythewood from Mr. W. L. Scott, of Pennsylvania.

MARYLAND FARMER

A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Live Stock and Rural Economy.

EZRA WHITMAN, Editor.

COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor,

141 WEST PRATT STREET,

BALTIMORE, MD.

BALTIMORE, MARCH 1st, 1884.

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☞ Our friends can do us a good turn by mentioning the MARYLAND FARMER to their neighbors, and suggesting to them to subscribe for it.

☞ Subscribe at once to the Maryland Farmer and get the cream of agricultural knowledge.

To Our Patrons.

As we have entered upon our 21st year, we are sure our old subscribers will see the justice and propriety of renewing their subscriptions for 1884, and in doing so, settle all arrearages, if any are due us.

We do hope, as we have no travelling agents, that every old subscriber and every friend of the MARYLAND FARMER will use his or her influence to obtain for this year as many additional subscribers as possible. To prove our desire to extend agricultural knowledge, at the least possible cost, we will furnish our Monthly Journal at the low price of \$1.00 per year, and give to each subscriber who pays in advance a nice premium of one of either of the following books:

Kendals Treatise on the Horse.

Scribner's Lumber Book.

Scribner's Grain Tables.

Horses, Their Feed and Their Feet. (new).

And to such as will add 50 cents extra to the amount due, we will send a dollar book

"Palliser's Model Homes."

Such premiums will reduce the price of the "MARYLAND FARMER" to almost nothing.

For our lady subscribers we have, if desired, that admirable treatise:

"Every Women Her Own Flower Gardener."

New First-Class Sewing Machines at Half Price.

PAYABLE IN SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE
"MARYLAND FARMER."

CLUBBING.—For the purpose of aiding our subscribers to an economical benefit of other Journals in our line, we have consented to club with the following for 1884:

The Breeders Weekly Gazette, Chicago, Ill., price \$3.00; with Maryland Farmer, \$3.25.

American Angler, price \$3.00; with Maryland Farmer, \$3.25.

Live Stock Monthly, Portland, Me., price \$1.00; with Maryland Farmer, \$1.50.

Poultry Yard, Hartford, Conn., price \$1.50; with Maryland Farmer, \$2.00.

☛ All payable in advance.

An Appeal to our Subscribers.

If each one of our subscribers would take the trouble to visit a few of his neighbors, and set forth the advantages of the Maryland Farmer, at its very low rate—\$1.00 per year, postage paid, and a premium book, worth by retail 50 cents, he would be advancing the cause of Agriculture, and helping himself by the enlightenment of his fellow-citizens. Every one who will do this and send us the name and address of one or more subscribers, with 75 cents for each name, may be sure that the paper and premium will be sent as directed, thus retaining for his trouble 25 cents for each new subscriber obtained. We make this liberal offer in the full expectation that our list of subscribers will be increased to 10,000 during this year. Our Monthly contains never less than 32, and often more octavo pages of solid reading matter, both useful and entertaining, chiefly made up of original matter from the best agricultural writers of the day, not men merely of scientific knowledge, but practical men, who know of what they talk,

Farmers' Convention.

A convention of farmers under the auspices of Baltimore and Harford County Agricultural Societies, was held in Baltimore on the 22d of February. Being a holiday, there was quite a gathering of persons from the city and the counties adjacent. There were some interesting questions discussed: Peter Henderson, Esq., of New York, made interesting remarks on "Market Gardening;" and Col. Robert Beverly, of Va., spoke upon "Cattle Feeding." A resolution was then offered to establish an Experimental Station at the old Arsenal near Pikesville, Balto. county. Prof. Allen went upon the platform to support the resolution. It was very evident that while he favored Pikesville for the Station, he was not in sympathy with the convention in regard the agricultural college which he referred to, and said it ought to be supported by the State.

The next speaker was Mr. Plowman, member of the Legislature from Harford Co., who opposed the resolution with such force that his speech fell like a wet blanket upon the convention. He said if an experimental station was desirable, he thought it more economical and appropriate, to have it placed at the agricultural college. While giving his views more extensively on the subject, he informed the Convention that the president of the college had published in an agricultural magazine, a more full description of the status and aims of that institution, which paper he asked to be read to the convention.

This part of Mr. Plowman's speech not receiving any attention, he again loudly called for the reading of President Smith's letter, but strange to say, no attention was paid to this request. The letter referred to, may be found in the February number of the MARYLAND FARMER, page 66. At this meeting there were some of the intelligent and best farmers of Balti-

more and Harford Co, but the object of the convention was to give Pikesville a boom, which could be plainly seen by the disregard shown the request of Mr. Plowman. He being a member of the Legislature will however have an opportunity to have the article referred to, read before the House, when the bill comes up to establish the station at Pikesville.

PALLISER'S USEFUL DETAILS.—An elegant and profusely illustrated quarterly of great size, at \$3.00 per year; published by the Palliser Company, Bridgeport, Conn. Each number will contain from 14 to 16 plates, of drawings 18 by 22 inches in size, and so accurate that any mechanic can readily execute by measurement with his rule. The first number—April—contains drawings and descriptions of buildings both outside and inside; Staircases is a specialty. Ornamentation as to suitable furniture, such as wardrobes, side boards, lounges, &c. This work is invaluable to not only those who are contemplating building and adding to their comforts inside the house, but to architects of all kinds, cabinet makers, stair builders, wood workers of all sorts, and plasterers, stone and brick masons, and indeed to all people generally who wish cheap, comfortable homes with inside conveniences. The Pallisers are European architects who have come to this country and already reached a high place as practical, economical architects in natural reputation. Their plans range from cottages to palaces, \$325 to \$4,000 and upward. Drawings and specifications of furniture in like proportion. Their designs for small cottage dwellings are both cheap, tasteful and elegant. They seem to have the capacity to suit the wants of all, with always an eye to beauty and usefulness. We highly commend their plucky venture, but fear they will not meet the reward they deserve in this new enterprise which is placed at so low a price to the public. Their admirable "Model Homes" can be had on application at the Maryland Farmer office,

Catalogues Received.

FROM Parker, Gannett & Wood, Boston Mass. a fine assortment of seeds, trees, and garden implements, &c.

FROM Dingee & Conard Co., West Grove, Chester Co., Pa. Rose Growers on an immense scale.

FROM W. H. Smith, 1018 Market Street, Philadelphia, Seedsman.

FROM Thos. A. Cox & Co., 409 Sansome St., San Francisco, Cal. Seed Catalogue.

FROM Hiram Sibley & Co's Seed Catalogue.

FROM John S. Collins, Moorestown, N. Jersey Small Fruits and Plants a Specialty.

FROM R. J. Halliday's Plant Catalogue. An admirable one, well illustrated and noticed elsewhere in our present columns. The Seed House is 238 W Baltimore St., Baltimore, Md.

FROM Childs & Jones, Improved Apparatus for Cheese Factories and Dairies. Utica, N. J.

FROM Johnson & Stokes, 1114 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pa., Seeds for the Garden & Farm.

FROM Fred. N. Lang, Barado, Wis., Seeds.

FROM Joseph Breck & Sons, Garden, Field and Flower Seeds, 51, 52, 53, North Market St., Boston. Elegantly illustrated, and full of instruction.

FROM Landreth's "Companion for the Garden and Farm" is a handsome tribute to their 100th anniversary. This old and reliable house, has an established reputation, which this year enters upon its centenary with continued and never ceasing energy and prosperity, as is fully proven by their superb catalogue full of useful information and illustrated by chromos, wood cuts and beautiful colored engravings of flowers, vegetables and the luscious water-melon.

FROM Peter Henderson & Co.'s splendid "Manual of Everything for the Garden," Nos. 35, 37 Cortland St., New York. Splendid illustrations Colored to the life of flowers, and numerous nice wood cuts. One of the most elegant issued this year.

FROM M. W. Dunham, Wayne, DuPage Co. Ill., a beautifully illustrated Catalogue of Percheron Horses.

FROM W. Atlee Burpee & Co., their superb Catalogue of Garden, Farm and Flower Seeds, profusely illustrated by wood cuts, and very fine colored engravings of Flowers and Vegetables. It has also wood engravings of dogs, and other domestic animals and birds.

FROM J. J. H. Gregory of Marblehead, Mass., has issued for the year, a first-class Catalogue. Mr. G. is too well known as the originator of some of our best vegetables, to require a word from us to add to his well deserved fame. The Catalogue for the year is in every respect one of the best he has ever issued.

FROM Hale Brothers, South Glastonburg, Conn., Price List of New and Choice varieties of small fruits a specialty.

FROM "The Mountain Side Herd" is one of the most elegant and splendidly illustrated Herd Book Catalogues ever issued, in behalf of the Jersey Breeds. The farm and herd are of world-wide fame. Address Theodore A. Havemeyer, Mahwah, N. J.

FROM D. M. Ferry & Co., Detroit, Mich. Seed Catalogue. This is one of the most useful and elegantly illustrated Catalogues ever issued by this famous house. They seem desirous in every way to keep ahead of the times; evidently they make no hesitation as to be in no way behind the foremost. At least it should be seen by all who are interested in flowers or vegetables before they decide what seeds or plants to buy.

FROM B. K. Bliss & Sons, 34 Barclay Street, New York, Hand-Book for the Farm and Garden, is all that could be expected, and like all the publications issued by that firm is highly creditable to them.

FROM H. S. Anderson, Union Springs, Cayuga Co., N. Y. Nurseries.

FROM John Saul, Washington, D. C. As usual with this eminent florist, his large Catalogue is accompanied with a splendid colored plate, large size, showing a bouquet of exquisite moss roses, of nearly full size, with a color as true to nature as art can approach. It is well worth a frame, and hanging on the wall of a lady's boudoir.

FROM Joseph Harris, Rochester, N. Y., a most excellent catalogue of Field and Garden Seeds. The farmer of "Moreton Farm," needs no word from us, or "bush" to show where good wine is to be had.

FROM Purdy's Descriptive Catalogue;—well illustrated and excellent.

SUPPLEMENTARY List of Novelties by Ellwanger & Barry of Rochester, N. Y., concerning fruits and flowers. Whatever emanates from this long established and popular house deserves full consideration and attracts the attention of connoisseurs in all branches of horticulture.

THANKS to D. M. Ferry & Co., Detroit, Mich., for a package of choice seed; their catalogue is noticed elsewhere.

VALLANCY E. FULLER's Jersey cow Mary Anne, of St. Lambert's, completed the seventh month of her test on the 31st ult. The seventh month—31 days—shows 634.08 lbs. of milk and 65.15 lbs. of unsalted butter, and for the whole seven months, 553 lbs. of butter. It is said that \$25,000 has been offered for this famous Canadian cow.—*Toronto Globe, Canada.*

MEN of all ages who suffer from low spirits, nervous debility and premature decay, may have life, health and vigor renewed by the use of the Marston Bolus treatment, without stomach medication. Consultation free. Send for descriptive treatise MARSTON REMEDY Co. 46 West 14th Street, N. Y.

A Dangerous Ambuscade,

DISCOVERED BARELY IN TIME—THE MOST DECEPTIVE AND LURING OF MODERN EVILS GRAPHICALLY DESCRIBED.

(Syracuse Journal.)

Something of a sensation was caused in this city yesterday by a rumor that one of our best known citizens was about to publish a statement concerning some unusual experiences during his residence in Syracuse. How the rumor originated it is impossible to say, but a reporter immediately sought Dr. S. G. Martin, the gentleman in question, and secured the following interview:

"What about this rumor, Doctor, that you are going to make a public statement of some important matters?"

"Just about the same as you will find in all rumors—some truth; some fiction. I had contemplated making a publication of some remarkable episodes that have occurred in my life, but have not completed it as yet."

"What is the nature of it, may I enquire?"

"Why, the fact that I am a human being instead of a spirit. I have passed through one of the most wonderful ordeals that perhaps ever occurred to any man.

The first intimation I had of it was several years ago, when I began to feel chilly at night and restless after retiring. Occasionally this would be varied by a soreness of the muscles and cramps in my arms and legs. I thought as most people would think, that it was only a cold so paid as little attention to it as possible. Shortly after this I noticed a peculiar catarrhal trouble and my throat also became inflamed.

As if this was not variety enough I felt sharp pains in my chest, and a constant tendency to headache."

"Why didn't you take the matter in hand and check it right where it was?"

"Why doesn't everybody do so? Simply because they think it is only some trifling and passing disorder. These troubles did not come all at once and I thought it unmanly to heed them. I have found, though, that every physical neglect must be paid for and with large interest. Men cannot draw drafts on their constitution without honoring them sometimes. These minor symptoms I have described, grew until they were giants of agony. I

became more nervous; had a strange fluttering of the heart, an inability to draw a long breath and an occasional numbness that was terribly suggestive of paralysis.

How I could have been so blind as not to understand what this meant I cannot imagine."

"And did you do nothing?"

"Yes, I traveled. In the spring of 1879 I went to Kansas and Colorado, and while in Denver, I was attacked with a mysterious hemorrhage of the urinary organs and lost twenty pounds of flesh in three weeks.

One day after my return I was taken with a terrible chill and at once advanced to a very severe attack of pneumonia. My left lung soon entirely filled with water and my legs and body became twice their natural size. I was obliged to sit upright in bed for several weeks in the midst of the severest agony, with my arms over my head, and in constant fear of suffocation."

"And did you still make no attempt to save yourself?"

"Yes, I made frantic efforts. I tried every thing that seemed to offer the least prospect of relief. I called a council of doctors and had them make an exhaustive chemical and microscopical examination of my condition. Five of the best physicians of Syracuse and several from another city said I must die!

It seemed as though their assertion was true for my feet became cold, my mouth parched, my eyes wore a fixed glassy stare, my body was covered with a cold clammy death sweat, and I read my fate in the anxious expressions of my family and friends."

"But the *finale*?"

"Came at last. My wife aroused to desperation, began to administer a remedy upon her own responsibility and while I grew better very slowly, I gained ground surely until, in brief, I have no trace of the terrible Brights disease from which I was dying, and am a perfectly well man. This may sound like a romance, but it is true, and my life, health and what I am are due to Warner's Safe Cure, which I wish was known to and used by the thousands who, I believe, are suffering this minute as I was originally. Does not such an experience as this justify me in making a public statement?"

"It certainly does. But then Bright's

disease is not a common complaint, doctor."

"Not common! On the contrary it is one of the most common. The trouble is, few people know they have it. It has so few marked symptoms until its final stages that a person may have it for years, each year getting more and more in its power and not suspect it. It is quite natural I should feel enthusiastic over this remedy while my wife is even more so than I am. She knows of its being used with surprising results by many ladies for their own peculiar ailments, over which it has singular power."

The statement drawn out by the above interview is amply confirmed by very many of our most prominent citizens, among them being Judge Reigel, and Col. James S. Goodrich, of the *Times*, while Gen. Dwight H. Bruce and Rev. Prof. W. P. Coddington, D. D., give the remedy their heartiest endorsement. In this age of wonders, surprising things are quite common but an experience so unusual as that of Dr. Martin's and occurring here in our midst, may well cause comment and teach a lesson. It shows the necessity of guarding the slightest approach of physical disorder and by the means which has been proven the most reliable and efficient. It shows the depth to which one can sink and yet be rescued, and it proves that few people need suffer if these truths are observed.

A PUZZLING COW.—The Philadelphia *Press* say that a full-blooded Jersey cow, named "Daisy," 25 years old, owned by Mr. John S. Jewell, residing near Princeton, N. J., dropped a fine calf on July 23, but had no milk for it. On August 1, she dropped a second calf, weighing eighty pounds, and the delayed milk fountain was then developed, so that both calves have now a supply. Taken altogether, this is an extraordinary case. The cow's age is itself out of the common, as well as the twin calves, while the cause for a difference of nine days in their ages and the delay of milk until the birth of the second, must form puzzles for the veterinary students sufficient to employ them for some time. Meanwhile it is pleasant to know that old "Daisy" was at last accounts in a fair way to raise her babies, which are doing well and greatly resemble each other.

LIVE STOCK REGISTER.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Messrs. Editors :

The Dutch Friesian Herd Book Association of America, held its 7th annual meeting at Utica, N. Y., on the 6th inst. It was a large gathering of intelligent breeders. Some twenty States were represented at the meeting.

The testimony of all was to the effect, that, the Friesian cattle were rapidly gaining in favor throughout the country, and that prices are steadily advancing for really good animals.

Some important changes were made in their by-laws, &c. The most important Resolution was the closing of the Herd Book on the 1st of May next, against the registry of any important animal, except such as are already registered in the Friesian or Netherland Herd Books of Europe, or the off-spring of such registered animals on the side of both sire and dam. This will prevent any more cattle coming into this H. B. without something at least being known as to breeding. It will limit importations for this Herd Book for awhile, but will raise the standard, and they say they want *quality* rather than numbers. This will squelch cattle *brokers* so far as this association is concerned.

This association pretends to hold themselves responsible for statements made in its Herd Book as to breeding records, &c. They therefore passed a resolution to the effect, that hereafter they would publish in the advanced registry, milk records, sworn to by the owner and milker, for a cow in the 2-year old form, of 50 pounds of milk per day; in the 3-year old form, 60 pounds per day; in the 4 year old form, 70 pounds and at full age, 85 pounds, and these records must extend over at least seven days. All records higher than these must be made under the direction of a committee appointed by the association, some State or county agricultural society, or some recognized stock-breeders association. And all such official tests must be made in conformity to such rules as the executive committee may adopt.

This is intended to *put down* the big story teller, and to prevent the honest breeder from being handi-capped, by an improbable lie. That there are cows of various breeds, capable of making large

records of butter or milk, no one will deny. But the public will not believe every statement made by the owner, of an improbable record, though he may get it published in the journals. The Friesian cow is probably the greatest milker known, and they can stand on *facts*, and do not require doubtful statements to commend them to the public.

To give your readers all that was done at this meeting, would make too long an article. I will only add that the meeting was harmonious, and enthusiastic. The opening address was made by the president, and very interesting papers were read by Col. T. D. Curtiss of the "Farmer and Dairyman," and Mr. Hicks of West Chester Pa.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Raising Stock Profitable.

A great portion of the farmer's profits comes from the growth of farm-stock. The colt or the calf that is worth but a nominal sum at birth, becomes in autumn worth much more. This increase of value is due to natural growth, the result of food consumed. Thus this calf or this colt becomes full grown, it has a certain value, and it will be found that the growth of an animal bears a certain proportion to its value from its birth to its maturity. This is true in regard to sheep, swine and the beef breeds of cattle and true of horses to the extent that their value may be afterwards increased by training, as carriage, saddle or draught horses. The feed consumed by stock and the care bestowed upon them, should be available at any time at a fair market price. The end to be attained by the intelligent farmer, is to keep the breeds of stock and feed them in such a way that they can be sold at a profit at any time. It neither pays to keep poor stock nor starve such stock as are kept. Keep the best and feed them well.

F. K. MORELAND.

☞ The best American steers are selling in English markets at fifteen cents per pound, dressed, and the best sheep bring nineteen cents.

More butter is spoiled by being over-worked than by not being worked enough
—Edward Burnett.

DIET FOR PIGS.—Corn is not a perfect diet for pigs. It is deficient in albuminoids. To correct this we must add an article, says the *Breeder's Gazette*, that will make up for the deficiency. For example, skim milk is highly nitrogenous and has nearly four per cent. of true albuminoids. Two-and-a-third pounds of skim milk contain as much albuminous food as is found in one pound of corn. But we cannot always add milk. Linseed cake, meal, or pea meal greatly increases the value of corn as hog feed. The pig kept in a small pen, getting milk and table scraps with a little corn, is noted for continued good health and even development.

THE GREATEST HORSE BREEDING ESTABLISHMENT IN AMERICA.—One of the many wonderful enterprises the great West is noted for, and one which none favored with opportunity should miss seeing, is the great breeding establishment of "Oaklawn" owned by M. W. Dunham, at Wayne, Ill. 35 miles from Chicago. His importations of Percheron horses from France, to date, have aggregated the immense sum of \$2,500,000, and at the present time at "Oaklawn" 500 head of the choicest specimens of that race can be seen, while on their Colorado ranges are 2,000 mares and 21 imported Percheron stallions in breeding.

KEEP the barn-yards drained so thoroughly that they are at all times solid and navigable. It does cattle no good to go wading about knee deep in filth, and the exhalations from the deposits of liquid and solid manure, such as are too often seen on the farm, go far toward poisoning the air for long distances around. The thrifty farmer will keep his barnyards free from mire.

Says the *National Live Stock Journal*: "Bran is well known to breeders to be far more satisfying to cattle and other stock than it has usually been credited with being. While nothing approaches oats for horses, in conjunction with a small allowance of hay, if they are required to make time upon the road, or pull heavy loads, so nothing excels the offal of wheat, with a sprinkling of corn meal and oil cake, or cotton seed meal, for cattle; and the same is true of breeding swine.

GUERNSEY CATTLE.—Of late Guernsey cattle are winning a high reputation where ever they are known in this country, chiefly in New England, New York and Pennsylvania. In comparison with their neighbors from Jersey, the Guernseys are much larger and hardier; make better beef carcasses when turned off for the butcher; are able to endure rougher weather and shift for themselves better, while the bullocks make strong and excellent draft animals, a purpose for which their more delicate rivals are entirely unsuitable. The calves, too, are large at birth and make heavy veals when about a month and a half old. The milking capacity of the Guernsey cow is fully as great as that of the average Jersey, and the milk is usually as rich in butter, which in color is of even a deeper golden yellow. Guernsey grades are remarkably like their pure-bred ancestors both in color, "handling" and their milking as well as their feeding capacity. In England Guernseys are quite numerous and have long been great favorites, and large exhibits of them are made at the principal fairs every year.—*Ex.*

Thrush.

A horse with the thrush should be kept in-doors on a plank floor, furnished amply with dry straw bedding. All detached or decayed portions of the frog, should be carefully trimmed off, so as not to start blood; then the hoofs should be trimmed and leveled, and shoes, with corking but without toe-piece, should be lightly tacked on. The feet should be cleansed with warm water, morning and evening, and after wiping them dry, a portion of dry calome^l or finely powdered acetate of zinc, should be introduced into the clefts of the frog by the aid of a small, flattened stick of wood, and the powder retained by inserting a little tow or oakum; or, pledgets of tow soaked in tar may be inserted daily, and kept in place by means of flattened pieces of wood across the frog, the ends of which are inserted between the shoe and the hoof. Patience and perseverance are required, as it sometimes takes months to cure bad cases of thrush.—*Breeder's Gazette, Chicago.*

MR. JOHN P. MORRIS is starting a regular goat farm near Harrisburg, N. C. He intends to raise goats as sheep are raised in large flocks.

THE quantity of food needed by stock varies even among animals of the same age and breed, and it necessarily varies to a greater extent among animals of different breeds. Upon this subject a farmer in England says it is sufficiently correct to reckon a sheep consuming twenty-eight pounds of green food, an ox or a cow 150 pounds, a calf forty pounds and a yearling eighty pounds daily. At this rate an ox or cow consumes as much as five sheep. The latter will require 10,220 pounds, or nearly five tons apiece, the former 54,750 pounds, or nearly twenty-five tons of green food, for its yearly maintenance.

THE following advise is from the *American Cattle Journal*: Keep sheep dry under foot with litter. This is even more necessary than roofing them. Never let them stand or lie in mud and water. Let no hogs eat with the sheep in the spring. Give the lambs a little milk feed in time of weaning. Never frighten sheep if possible to avoid it. Some rye for weak ones in cold weather, if you can. Separate all weak, thin or sick from the strong in the fall, and give them special care. Shear at once any sheep commencing to shed its wool, unless the weather is too severe, and shave carefully the felt off any that die.

EVERY FARMER MAY KEEP SHEEP.—Every farmer, however few the acres, may profitably keep a certain number of sheep, for not only in summer, but also in winter, will sheep consume fodder otherwise wasted. Many persons suppose that it is not feasible to keep sheep with other stock in the same pasture or feeding yard. It is not safe to keep sheep in the same pasture with young horses. Both animals feed on short grasses and sometimes weeds, and playful young horses sometimes injure sheep by racing them. With cattle the horns are the only danger, sheep soon learn to keep out of the way of them. While it is better that sheep should be kept by themselves, especially in winter and in the case of large flocks, decidedly so, yet when few sheep are kept they may be safely allowed to run with cattle in the pastures, and also in feeding yards in the winter. Indeed, soon learn to follow the cattle rather closely, especially in regions where predatory dogs are common, and

instinctly so for protection. It is a fact that dogs seldom attack sheep kept with cattle, unless in the case of some old rogue, and then only when the sheep are found at a considerable distance, for the instinct of the cattle is to attack animals found chasing or worrying other stock near them.—*Breeder's Gazette, Chicago.*

A New York farmer who has been testing Holsteins as milkers states that in a herd of twelve, the highest yield was twenty pounds and the lowest fourteen pounds of butter. The daily yield of five of them was over three pounds for the highest and two and a half for the lowest. He thinks the Holsteins can be made to rival the Jerseys in production of butter, while for milk, butter and beef combined they are superior to all other breeds.—*Ex.*

LARGE STEERS.—H. B. Varnum, of Marshalltown, Ia., who exhibited at Chicago the big steer King David, weighing 2,835 pounds, has taken him to New York, along with some other big ones purchased of J. R. Peak & Son, Winchester, Ill., as follows: Jumbo, who is 1,587 days old, weighs 2,450 pounds; Dover, 1,704 days old, weighs 2,400 pounds; Victor, 1,339 days old, weighs 2,220 pounds; Randolph, 1,292 days old, weighs 2,020 pounds; Powell weighs 1,960 pounds and Joe 1,615. For the six steers Mr. Varnum paid eight cents a pound, or a total of upward of \$1,011.60. These steers, in company with King David, will make a sensation in New York city, where all will be slaughtered after they have been exhibited.—*Live Stock Indicator.*

A CONVENTION will be held in Cincinnati, beginning March 25, 1884, in the Great Music Hall and Exposition Building of that city. There is a feeling among inventors that something must be done to protect their interests, and the Convention to be held will seek to adopt some united form of action. Inventors and patentees interested in this movement, should at once address the Chairman of the Executive Committee, J. S. Zerbe, Editor of the "American Inventor," 188 West Fifth st., Cincinnati, Ohio, who will forward each applicant the badge to entitle the holder to admission on the floor as a delegate.

POULTRY HOUSE.

GEESE.

Americans are not such goose eaters as the people of Europe. The turkey has in a measure supplanted the goose on all great holidays and festivities. The goose, however, is still highly prized by many, and when happy Christmas and New Year come around it is found upon the family board, and some prefer it to turkey for "auld lang syne" memory.

Considering the extent of our country, the rivers and streams which flow through our lands, the pasture range everywhere and the locations contiguous to good city markets, it is somewhat strange that so few geese are raised on farms compared with the large number of barn-yard fowls. No class of poultry will give the breeder more profit on the investment than geese where the facilities are at hand and the location for their propagation good. Geese will take better care of themselves upon an old pasture range where a stream or pond runs through, keep in better condition upon grass, on the floating garbage by the lands, in the muddy pools and by the shores than will any other species of domestic poultry. —*Poultry Monthly.*

Keeping Eggs Fresh.

At the Birmingham Poultry Show, England, prizes were offered for the best dozen preserved eggs that had been kept two months. The eggs were tested by breaking one of each set competing for the prize into a clean saucer, also by boiling one of each lot.

The eggs that had been preserved in lime water, it was found on breaking them, presented cloudy whites. Eggs preserved by rubbing over with beeswax and oil, showed thin, watery whites.

Eggs that stood best the test of boiling and which gained the first prize had been simply packed in common salt. These had lost little if any by evaporation, had good, consistent albumen and were pleasant to the taste. The exhibit which took the second prize was served as follows: Melt one part of white wax to two parts of spermaceti, boil and mix thoroughly; or, two parts clarified suet to one of wax and two of spermaceti. Take new laid eggs, rub with antiseptic salt or fine rice starch. Wrap each egg in fine tissue paper, putting the broad end downward; screw the paper

tightly at the top, leaving an inch to hold it by. Dip each egg rapidly into the fat heated to 100 degrees. Withdraw and leave to cool. Pack broad end downward in dry, white sand or saw-dust. The judges were inclined to believe that had the trial been for a longer period than two months this latter method would perhaps have proven the better of the two. The eggs were excellent, and on stripping off the waxed paper the shells presented the clean, fresh appearance of newly laid eggs. —*The World.*

EGGS.

"But one of the curious things about the business is, that the demand for eggs still keeps ahead of the domestic supply. This demand is met in part by importing large numbers of eggs from England and France. We see in this a bright future for the domestic American hen. But all the profits in poultry are not in the eggs they produce."

This we take from an exchange and endorse, with the remark that we should first have eggs before we count on our chickens. It is a shame on the industry and energy of men and women of our great and expansive territory, that we have to cross the great water, 3,000 miles to get eggs for our daily consumption. Instead of having to pay 40 cents a dozen for eggs our people should have them in abundance at half the price. Twelve cents per dozen will pay well any poultry-keeper in the country for his or her labor and expense in getting 12 eggs. Every hen at that would be worth at least 75 cents, clear, per year. —*EDS. MD. FAR.*

THE KIND OF SOIL FOR FOWLS.—The poorest and lightest sandy soil is better for fowls than any other. The rains carry downwards all the impurities, and such soil is always hard and free from mud, becoming dry in a short time. Diseases are not as frequent on light soils, especially roup, gapes in the young chicks seldom occurs. This enables those possessing poor sandy soils, to utilize those for poultry raising, and in a short time the land may be fitted for growing crops. Trees are benefitted by poultry, not only from the droppings left on the ground, but also through the destruction of insects. Poultry and fruit should be the object, and there are many locations that could be made serviceable in that respect. —*Rural Record.*

Who Want an Agricultural Station at Pikesville, Baltimore Co. Md.?

Why, every farmer who lives within the radius of a few miles of that point designated within the realm of Baltimore county, because each one hopes and has been indoctrinated to believe that such an establishment would raise the price if not the *value* of his land at least fifty per cent. or more. Every one of the score of the scientists that aspire to the honor of director or chief, want it, calculating upon the salary of \$5,000 per year as a comfortable bonanza on which to rest for a few years. Then it is wanted by the hundred of lesser lights who see, from afar, a place of rest at \$1,000 or \$2,000 per year, as assistants, &c. Another class of our people *want it*, because they are for no sensible reason, opposed to the agricultural college. Such persons, or those who have friends they desire to serve, *want it*.

If the State can afford to appropriate \$20,000 or \$30,000 to an experimental station annually, it can well afford in its overflow of riches to restore its annual help to the several county agricultural societies, to the State Agricultural Society, and the various mechanical institutes, and to the Agricultural College in which it has already invested so large an amount. It also has its eleemosynary and charitable institutions to be taken care of. Are our people to be deprived of such beneficiary aids, to have built up, for a favored few, a so-called agricultural station?

A "station" as implied from the charter desired, to be of any use, or of the merest use, cannot be properly conducted under less than \$20,000 or \$30,000 per year. The same character of institutions in other States, have cost much more. It is not believed by the honest, sensible people of the State that our representatives will for a moment consent to such a scheme for personal aggrandisement, or to gratify malice, to destroy an already existing institution, in which the State has so large an interest, and in which the popular mind has, of late taken so deep a hold.

The Maryland Agricultural College and its Board of Trustees.

The often repeated misrepresentation of this institution is supposed to be in a great measure on account of its management being misunderstood. The college is under the management of a Board of Trustees, consisting of twelve members who have the entire control of its affairs, a majority of which are State officers, who are members by virtue of the office they hold, viz: the Governor, Comptroller, Treasurer, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Delegates, and Attorney General; five of the Board are elected annually by the stockholders; and the twelfth member is the U. S. Commissioner of Agriculture. Can there be a more honest way of electing a board of control for the college? No boss rule here; no rings. The management comes direct from the people, and whoever abuses the college, abuses the State. It is said by enemies of the college that nearly \$300,000 have been received from the State; while this is an exaggeration of about one-half, yet every dollar that has been received, has been honestly expended and disbursed in the interest of the college under the control of the above board. To show the confidence and interest this board has in the institution, we will say the members located in various parts of the State attend the regular quarterly and other meetings, paying their own travelling expenses and without any pay whatever for their time; this during the year is quite a heavy expense. We might refer to a few of these zealous agriculturists who have labored so faithfully in this cause on the part of the stockholders, Calvert, Earle, Merryman, McHenry, Gen. Hardcastle, A. B. Davis, and others. Now, we say, neither of the above named gentlemen or the present board have any other interest in this institution than to build it up and make it useful for the purpose it was designed. This cannot be done without means. If the Legislature will restore the

former appropriation to the college, it is in a condition to make itself useful to the farmers and carry out its original design. No institution of this kind in the United States is better situated, or that can be made more useful to the agriculturists of the country, and we trust the Legislature will come forward with a helping hand and restore the appropriation it is so justly entitled to.

DEAFNESS.

We clip the following article from the editorial columns of the People's Fireside Journal of New York. It will be interesting to many of our readers no doubt:—

An advertisement appeared in the *FIRESIDE JOURNAL* last month, entitled "Hope for the Deaf," certifying that the parties advertising they had Artificial Ear Drums, for sale by which deaf persons were enabled to hear. A writer for the *JOURNAL* feeling that the readers would be interested in such an appliance visited the firm, Messrs. West & Co., 7 Murray Street, New York, and found them in their tasty quarters doing an immense trade in supplying those patented artificial ear drums to deaf persons. Our readers will be interested in an article that will cure deafness we are sure, as no doubt we have many deaf readers. Statistics state every ninth person in the United States is deaf, hence we have upwards of 10,000 who are deaf or partially deaf. For the benefit of these we looked carefully over this appliance, and shall give as lucid a description of it as we can in this article.

Deprived of hearing, one is shut out from a vast world of intelligence and pleasurable gratification. Deafness robs the sufferer of the loving words of relations and friends, of the cheering voices of home and childhood, and all the varied sounds of animate and inanimate nature which gladdens and cheers the human heart. Fathers and mothers surrounded by their families mourn their bereavement. The youth are cut off from educational advancement, and the business man is forced to give up his ambitions and hopes. The deaf are left in a hopeless isolation. The lame may conceal their infirmity by remaining quiet, and the blind by using glasses, but the deaf person is made a centre of attraction of all by the necessity of shouting at the top of the voice to be heard.

In its construction or formation, the Ear is probably the most complicated, if not the most delicate of all the wonderful organs of the human body.

It consists of three general divisions: the external ear—including the auditory canal; the tympanum or middle ear; and the labyrinth or internal ear. The outer ear collects the waves of sound and directs them to the drum. The middle ear may be termed an air chamber, connected by a passage with the throat, called the eustachian tube; and the internal ear contains a fluid, and from it the auditory nerve branches and radiates to the brain.

Although the ear is usually divided into three parts, yet it consists of two general divisions:—"A Conducting Apparatus," and "A Sensorium"—and when deafness results from certain impairment or feebleness of the conducting apparatus, such as scrofula, risings and discharges, acute catarrh, colds, perforation or destruction of the drums, measles, whooping cough, shocks of artillery, scarlet fever, etc., and in cases of inertness of the natural ear drums or ossicles, arising from feebleness and what is termed dryness of the ear, and by other causes of which the patient can give no satisfactory account. These Patented Ear Drums will revive the hearing by restoring the organs to their natural condition.

The Drums which these gentlemen supply are made after the principal of the natural drum of the ear from pure translucent gum, and finished in gold and silver. They are of the most delicate make and cannot possibly injure the ear being perfectly cushioned, and the drum is as soft as the softest down. The device is placed in the ear and pressed back against the natural drum for which it is a substitute. A little hollow tube runs out a short distance from the drum of the ear which gives ventilation and aids in conveying the sound to the drum. A stem is attached to the tube to insert all back in the ear and when placed in the ear is not noticeable to a person in conversation with the wearer. Some agreeable surprises have been practiced by persons who have purchased the drums and inserted them without advising their friends who were astonished to find out how well they heard. The cure is sometimes but not always immediate as they are not used as trumpets, but restore the hearing gradually by replacing the natural ear drum and supporting the enfeebled tympanum membrane. With the patented drums is supplied a lotion which loosens the wax when hardened and otherwise assists the drums in performing their functions. In cases of catarrhal deafness they supply a peculiar nasal catarrh preparation which relieves the eustachia tube when closed or inflamed or where there is a discharge from the ears. Judging what we saw of the Patented Ear Drums we should say that there would be no more deafness as soon as they became fully known to the public. We were shown their correspondence of the day, and were astonished at the number of satisfactory letters they received, coming from all parts and all classes, speaking in the most endearing and thankful tones of the cures effected. Some of these letters were from the most prominent men of the country, who wrote very intelligent letters on the subject. Taking a close and thorough examination of the appliances we can recommend our readers who are afflicted with deafness, to purchase a pair from those gentlemen. The prices are reasonable considering the fine workmanship—ladies' and gents' silver are \$3.00 a pair, ladies' gold \$4.00, and gents' gold \$5.00 a pair. The lotion is free, and the catarrhal preparation is \$1.00 per package. Should we be the means of alleviating any cases of deafness among our readers we will be amply repaid for our trouble in this matter by their well wishes.

American Agricultural Association.

This National Society, held its Annual Meeting for discussion of agricultural topics and the election of officers, in New York city, on the 6th and 7th of February 1884.

We had the good fortune to participate in the proceedings, which were highly interesting and instructive. On taking the chair, President Col. Sprague of Vermont, excused himself because of ill health, from presiding, and called ex-Mayor Chas. W. Hutchinson, of Utica, N. Y. to the Chair. A better and abler substitute could seldom be found as it appeared by the dignified and excellent manner in which he discharged the duties devolving on him. Mr. H. made a brief address, in which he suggested the holding of a National Agricultural Exhibition each year. [This suggestion we have always favored and heartily respond to.—ED. MD. FAR.]

Mr. E. D. Goodwin, of Falls Village, Conn., read a paper upon "The Influence of Forests."

Col. Hardin, of Kentucky, read a paper contributed by Senator L. B. Vance, of North Carolina, upon the necessity of the farmers of the United States organizing to protect their interests. All other classes, he said, were fully organized, and all preyed upon the farmer. All "come to Washington to influence legislation except the agricultural classes." This paper was fully discussed by Mr. Philo. Parsons of Detroit, Col. F. M. Etting of Pa.; Hon. O. M. Tinkham of Vermont; William Dean of Delaware and others. Gen. John L. Clingman of N. Carolina, by invitation, then addressed the Convention, advising more attention to the growing of grapes and wine-making.

The evening session opened with a very interesting and elaborate paper by Mr. Joseph H. Real, Secretary of the association, on "Imitations of Butter." Mr. Reall

pointed out what he considered grave dangers to the dairy interests of this country from oleomargarine and butterine. Mr. Morris K. Moreland, of Ogdensburg, read a paper upon Jersey cattle, and the Hon. George Blight, of Pennsylvania, one upon Guinon's system of choosing cows. The balance of the evening was spent in trying to wrest from Farmer Jessup, of Long Island, the secret by which he was able to raise 700 to 800 bushels of potatoes to the acre. Several other papers of importance were read, among which was an instructive essay by Dr. Byron D. Halsted, on "How Wheat Becomes Rusted."

The election of officers, was concluded with but few changes from the list of last year. Those from Maryland were A. M. Fulford as a member of the Board of Directors, and E. Whitman as Vice President.

The meeting was highly encouraging from the number of delegates and their representation of so many States of the Union, showing the vast interest taken by the whole country in this national institution. Our space being so limited this month we shall close this short report by saying, that further notice of this noted Convention will be taken, in some future number of the MARYLAND FARMER.

Maryland Agricultural College.

President Smith of the Maryland Agricultural College, delivered an address on Tuesday evening last the 26th inst., in the hall of the House of Delegates; setting forth the present condition of the college, its needs and its future prospects which we have heard highly spoken of as a clear and satisfactory statement. At its close he announced himself ready to answer any question, and a number of questions were accordingly asked and answered.

We are sorry that we can do no more than make this simple allusion to the address, as we are ready for the press.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

Chats with the Ladies for March.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

BIRD OF SPRING.

"Hail to thee, bird of Spring,
 Blithe be thy welcoming.
 Send thy sweet carol o'er woodland and plain;
 Sweeter notes never were heard,
 Sing thy song, bonnie bird,
 Gladden our hearts with thy music again.

"Swells thy song on the ear,
 Making the world more fair.
 Chasing all sorrow and gloom from the brow;
 Flowers will welcome thee
 Gladly, dear bird, as we.
 Who such a joy-giving creature as thou?

"Hail to thee, bird of Spring,
 Hark! now the woodlands ring,
 Echo repeats every note of thy lay;
 High on thy fleet wing soar.
 Sing to us evermore—
 Bird of the Spring time, Ah! stay with us, stay!"

Spring has come! At least the first spring month—March—has come, if it brings not the balmy breath of Spring. Yet even with its storms, cold and snow, nature will not wait, but sends forth her early flowers, violets, john-quills, and snow drops, the advanced guard of the grand array that is soon to follow. Then let our lady-friends at once prepare the garden for the great forthcoming army. Select seeds and plants and be ready when the proper season arrives for sowing and setting out. Be ready to embrace the first favorable weather, after a dreary winter, to begin a series of out door amusements conducive to healthy exercise. As a rule too much time has been lost in embroidery, or eternal "stitching, stitching," and reading trashy literature, while the body is languishing and the mind is becoming a field of weeds instead of golden grain. An accomplished lady writes: "we recommend various studies when they are often of little utility, simply on the pretence of exercising and disciplining the mind; as if *useful* knowledge did not give a healthier and more *natural* discipline"

There is perhaps at present no field of labor more inviting to the charities of the female sex, nor one, which more than any other calls for the legitimate exercise of woman's good common sense and kindly feelings than the recent effort now making to introduce into our public and private schools, manual labor as a feature of education fully equal to the mental acquirements in higher branches of learning. Let me urge you to lend all your energies and powers of persuasion to the fulfillment of this glorious innovation upon the old system of education. Teach

the hand to perform and put in practice what is taught in the books theoretically. How many are the poor boys who leave school with heads conglomerated by the numerous lessons they have learned by rote to say before the examining committee, as to when Cæsar lived or Nero fiddled,—the wild propositions of Darwin in regard to the origin of man—the time when a certain comet or star appeared and its present name or whereabouts—the name and length of rivers, or height of mountains, &c, and yet cannot tell the difference between an axe and a hand saw, or know ought about the use of implements necessary to human comfort or promotive in agriculture of the means of human sustenance and the happiness of life. The same of girls, dependent upon their own exertions for support, leaving the secluded shades of educational institutions with over-taxed brains and sicklied bodies, not knowing how to bake a hoe-cake, set a room in order, wash a frock, iron a shirt, sweep and dust a room. Poor learned simpleton!

Then by all means let us have our boys and girls taught manual labor more than mental learning in the great ologies, which system of education often is more hurtful than otherwise, for a little learning is always a dangerous thing as we all know. A combination, judiciously intermingled, of science and manual labor, is the grand result by a "higher education," reduced to practice in the every day pursuits of life. Will you not think of this and see for yourselves the wondrous advantages that will result from enforcing manual labor upon all scholars who reap the benefit of the immense appropriations of money by the State for the good of the children? A girl to day born, and then bred up with all the appliances that wealth can afford, may marry a poor man, or in the ever varying vicissitudes of life become literally poor at the dawn of her womanhood. She has a smattering of music and drawing, &c.,—knows something of the solar system, and can draw well enough to let the beholder see that she intended to distinguish between a horse and an ox, or a cabbage and a turnip. But will this superficial knowledge give her a support? This however, with a practical knowledge of how her mental acquirements can be reduced to practice, would at once command an ample support. It is here, that the importance of the manual labor system, comes in and is fully shown to be all important.

Think well, good ladies, over these suggestions and lend your influences to the elevation of labor, and to the importance of that knowledge

which imparts to all—rich and poor—the capacity of, if ever there be need of it, to cook, wash, sweep and discharge all the duties of the humblest domestic. Who can command the respect of a servant, when he or she is incapable of showing exactly how an order can be executed? He who directs how to plow, should be able to take the reins and practically demonstrate what he wants done. She who orders sundry dishes to be served, should be able to aid her cook by practically teaching her, and explaining each step in the process,—scientifically from books would be all the better, if not read, but demonstrated by hand. My opinion is, that there is no woman too noble and rich to be above practical knowledge of the most minute details of every day life in house keeping. Teach therefore your girls the mysteries of the dairy, the poultry house, and how to sweep, how to bake and in a word how to “keep house.” It will be to them hereafter a mint of happiness and the assured means by which much mortification and misery be avoided, and the great delight of domestic content and love be obtained.

The most contemptible creature on earth is an opiated book-worm, destitute of all common sense, and the most pitiable, helpless being is a woman of accomplishments and versed in the higher studies, but better acquainted with the dime literature and fashion plates, yet ignorant of all common place matters and incapable of understanding the most ordinary business transactions of life. Of such there are many—oh! how many?

The Rev. David I. Burrell says in his Sunday School Lesson for March 9th, 1884.

“It was a Jewish proverb, ‘He who teaches his son no trade, teaches him to steal.’ The gospel plainly sets forth the dignity of manual labor. There are many American boys who would think it quite beneath them to toil in a carpenter shop, as Jesus did. A daughter of the late Czar of Russia fitted herself for school-teaching. The Crown-prince of Germany is a practical book binder. None but good-for-naughts look down on handicraft.”

For the Maryland Farmer.

Communication by a Lady.

Patuxent Planter in January number spoke my sentiments so fully and forcibly, that I cannot refrain from giving a good, sound cheer. Earth would be a perfect paradise if we would all follow his advice, then let us consecrate our selves anew, and resolve to “pour balm on some wounded heart, forgetting wrongs, forgiving offenses,” thereby laying up treasures in Heaven where moth doth not corrupt, nor thieves break through and steal. How many wealthy persons could make the hearts of the poor rejoice by sending them a box of their cast off clothes, remnants of calico and cloth, which can be bought so cheap in cities; even in passing on the street give a kind look, a friendly word: rest assured, you will not lose its reward, for even a “cup of cold water” to one of these little ones is appreciated by our Heavenly Father. MIZZAPIL.

P. S.—I send you for what they are worth two TRIED RECIPES.

FRENCH LOAF CAKE—1 lb. sugar, 1 lb. flour, 1 lb. butter, 8 eggs, 1 cup cream, 1 teaspoonful of soda and 1 of baking powder. Beat the butter and sugar together; beat the eggs separately very light, stir in the cream; sift the soda and baking powder and flour together 2 or 3 times, rind and juice of a lemon. Bake 1½ hour, it is equal to pound-cake.

BEST SPONGE CAKE—1 lb. sugar, 10 eggs, 10 oz. flour; beat the yolks and sugar together, beat the whites very light, and mix altogether, stirring in the flour very lightly, 1 tablespoonful of vinegar or lemon juice, and flavor with lemon.

The following appropriate lines were read before the Winthrop Farmer's Club at their banquet in March 1883.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Education the Hand-maid of Agriculture.

Far back in the ages, when the world first began,
Agriculture was then conducted by man;
And thus has remained by science and power,
Revised and improved, up to this present hour.

Education to-day for the farmer has wrought,
Many changes in life, which before were unsought;
Ideas are aroused, that lay dormant and still,
But they cannot be reached, at the foot of the hill.

But upward and onward, is the road to pursue,
Advance, is the word on the guide-board to view;
Far up we may climb, rugged path's can ascend,
With knowledge and science our steps to attend.

Our ancestors toiled in the days long ago,
To excel in all ways, yet their progress was slow;
Energetic and brave, they sought and secured,
Bright laurels of fame, and privations endured.

Our own lovely land, so neatly arrayed,
With the beauties of nature, so lavishly displayed;
Where once the rude huts and wigwams were seen,
Comes a vine-covered cottage with trellises green.

West Winthrop, ever ready to hear the loud call,
To advance and improve, as the world glides along,
Looks over the landscape not far to behold,
On Excelsior's banner, her name is enrolled.

Her club, deeming wise all things to complete,
This banquet devised, both grand and unique;
May it serve to bind strong in our own native land
Agriculture and knowledge, with a close-fitting band.
Winthrop, March 1883. ABBIE C. HOWARD.

The New, Elegant and Complete Floral and Horticultural Establishment of
Robert J. Halliday, 238 West
Baltimore Street.

A need long wanted in this city, has been supplied by the energy and taste of Mr. Halliday in giving to Baltimore such a delightful resort for its people and strangers, as will well compare with those of like character, which adorn other great cities in this country. Here the eye is feasted with the great variety of lovely growing plants in full bloom—a very winter garden—with the cutest little aquariums, embedded in the beauty of rare flowers; garden seeds

of all sorts; all implements and tools suited to the garden and lawn, displayed tastefully, and quantities of designs for floral tributes to the dead, and to the marriage and other festivals, or gatherings of the people. The large stock of unique and beautiful hanging baskets, and other rustic designs adapted to ornamentation of cottage or more pretentious dwellings, is well worth the inspection of all visitors and

appliance necessary for the successful prosecution of a large business.

Our country readers when purchasing their spring stock of seeds will do well to remember this house, as their entire stock is fresh and can be relied upon.

During a visit to this very attractive tribute to the growing taste of our people for flowers, and graceful ornamentation of country homes, we selected a cut of a



Hydrangea Paniculata Grandiflora.

seekers after such cheap yet exquisite house and lawn fixtures.

For many years Mr. Halliday has had his floral establishment on the corner of Charles and Baltimore streets, but owing to his fast increasing business, he has been compelled to seek larger accommodations, and has recently fitted up in the most elegant manner and removed to the large, five-story warehouse, 238 West Baltimore street. This building has a frontage of 30 by a depth of 175 feet, and contains every

flower plant, that will we know, give satisfaction to every one. We give it and a description as follows:

One of the best plants for the garden, perfectly hardy. No amount of inclement weather appears capable of making the slightest impression upon it. The flowers first open white, and as the season advances the flowers assume a tinge of pink. Every healthy, robust shoot produces a large head of bloom. Price, 25 cents to \$1.00 each.